

GENUINE NARRATIVES, AND CONCISE
M E M O I R S

Of some of the most INTERESTING EXPLOITS,
and SINGULAR ADVENTURES,

O F

J. M^CA L P I N E,
A NATIVE HIGHLANDER,

From the time of his Emigration from
Scotland, to America 1773 ;

During the long period of his faithful attachment to, and hazardous attendance on the British army's under the command of the Generals, Carleton and Burgoyne, in their several operations that he was concerned in ; till december 1779. To complain of his neglected services ; and humbly to request government for reparations of his losses in the royal cause.

Every circumstance related faithfully, and with all Delicacy, containing nothing but indisputable FACTS that can be well Vouched, and are mostly known to many Gentlemen of good Character, in both the Private and Military lines of Life. Carefully arranged, and published for the use of the Public at large.

To which is Added,

A description of Botany Bay, Nova-Scotia, and Canada.

Printed in the Year M,D,CCLXXXVIII.

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TO MY EVER ESTEEMED
FRIEND AND PATRON, LIEUT. GENERAL

SIR GUY CARLETON:

LATE COMMANDER OF THE
BRITISH FORCES IN CANADA.

HONOURED SIR,

AS it is customary for authors to introduce their performance to the public, under some respectable patronage, so do I now most chearfully pay this small tribute of my gratitude to you: whose unremitting services to Britain are too well known here, to be recited, during the time of your being in the chief command in Canada and other parts of North America; And your various condescensions to me, in particular, while I had the honour of being under your direction, and enjoying a share of your confidence and friendship at Crown point, Canada and their environs, I never will nor can forget, or repay.—I say it without flattery, and from my knowledge of facts, that is to be regretted as a national loss, that you were not continued in the supreme command in Canada, nay in conducting the whole operations of this unhappy American war; from my intimate acquaintance with the people, I can

IV. DEDICATION.

candidly aver that many thousand Britains, particularly Scots, and especially my countrymen the brave Highlanders, would, with me, have wasted their strength, exhausted their blood, and chearfully died, sword in hand; under the command of that ever meritorious General, Sir Guy Carleton. Had the ministry been in the field, to experience the troubles and dangers, you encountred and surmounted, you never had been superceded: unhappy for our national cause: that you retired from command, since which period, we have it to lament, that the British interest seems to be too much absorded in indolence and inactivity. As you Sir, best know of any man alive, the alacrity and perseverance, with which I always contributed my poor but best services, and finally lost my all in the British cause, I could not appeal to any other person, equally enabled, to do my loyal behaviour common justice; and I'm convinced more heartily disposed to give a humane recommendation of me, to my good King and country, for removing the many calamities I did and do suffer in common with some other loyal American refugees, who have not been rewarded according to merit.

I am, with every sence of Gratitude and Esteem,

Honoured S I R,

Your much obliged

and very humble Servant,

JOHN M'CALPINE.

IT is for national use, and information to the public, that John M'Alpine author of the following details, has now published to the world, these genuine and brief narratives and memoirs of some of his particular adventures, and interesting manœuvres, from the time of his first settlement, in America, anno 1773: and during the long and hazardous period, that he loyally and faithfully attached himself avowedly to the British Army's in that country, where his repeated good offices and attendance were often solicited and acknowledged by several commanding officers and others, tho' his best services have been so perfectly neglected. — Containing the various narratives, and curious details of his making family settlements, in the province of New-York, America: His repeated expulsions from different estates by the American revolvers; The hardships he underwent: Dangers he encountered; disasters he contended with: Difficulties he surmounted: Escapes he effected: Losses he sustained; Cruel treatments that he and his family endured: Various hazardous good offices that he occasionally undertook for his Country, & seasonably & happily performed in the royal cause; particularly his essential services and military exploits, while he was confidentially employed by, and faithfully continued with the British Army's, under the General Carleton, Burgoyne, Hamilton, Phillips, Powell, and other officers: and his readily acknowledged valliant behaviour in the attack and engagement, at Freemans's Farms in Seeptember 1777, where the Rebels were defeated. His being finally captured in the service and carried prisoner about three hundred miles thro' bad roads, winter storms, frost and snows, first to Beasington goal as a convict, in character of a Tory; thence drove along the country confinement at Hertford: the usage given him there. His exchange upon parole, by cartel; His arrival at New York; The very unmerited inattention, or rather neglect shoven him there, by the Officers in highest command, who ought to have patroniz-

ed and supported him ; The great injury's done him in his then line of employment, both at New York and Long Island, by sundry persons named, who should rather have protected and encouraged him ; Particularly the unremitting oppression he endured from Lieutenant Colonel Clark, Barrack Master General, and his rapacious assistants in that department ; and especially his avaritious deputy Gilbert Wauch, formerly baker in Edinburgh ; the calamitous hardships and losses he long suffered by their oppressive exertions ; and his lawless and forceable expulsion from his land and property on Loyd's neck Long Island, through their perfidious misrepresentations and irregular efforts : and his many peaceable, tho' ineffectual applications, to those in highest rank at New York, for obtaining redress. And now he proposes to lay his unparallelled grievances, and deplorable situation, before the Throne of our most Gracious Sovereign, the Ministry, all good Patriots, and men of humanity, and in general before the Nation and World at large. All exhibiting such a series of complicated difficulties, dangers and losses to himself, and hazardous interesting services to his native Country and our royal cause, as perhaps no other individual encountred, certainly no other disengaged man, has accomplished in the course of the time he was entangled in our present American contention (1773.)

GENUINE NARRATIVES, &c.

IN the month of May 1773, I John M'Alpine, author of these narratives, left Scotland with a view to settle in America, and in June thereafter arrived with my family and effects at New York; where having remained for a short time with a special friend, I was by him recommended to Colonel Reid as the most proper person to take or purchase uncultivated land, of which kind he had considerable lots, in the back Settlements of New York Province. Accordingly a bargain was completed, by my purchasing six hundred acres of uncultivated land from him at the rate of Ten Shillings currency per acre, the value payable in the course of Seven Years. In consequence of that agreement, I moved up the country, and settled upon Colonel Reid's estate, where I had not been above eight days, resident when a party of the banditti (called Green Mountain Boys) came from Hampshire in New England, and dispossessed me and my family; burning the houses, mill, crop, utensils &c. on pretence that, that particular tract of ground was not within the limits of Colonel Reid's grant.

Notwithstanding this violent assault in my outset, I took every possible way and method in my power, of continuing (tho' inconveniently) on the premises, that season, in the flattering hope of being allowed to retain quiet possession, till once the humour of these infatuated people (now growing outrageous) would submit to the dictates of cool reason; and that I would have time and opportunity to cultivate more acquaintance, perhaps intimacy with them. But matters growing daily more critical with these turbulent neighbours, I despaired of enjoying any peaceable or comfortable

possession on that tract of ground; and therefore I came to the resolution of removing that fall to a more distant situation. This I accordingly perfected, and took up my winter residence in the month of November following (1773) upon the tract or lot of land, that belonged to Major Allan Campbell, near to Crownpoint. Here I industriously persevered in improving the ground, and got about fifty acres of it cultivated to advantage; having reduced that eligible spot from a barren wilderness, covered with wood into a valuable little Farm, where by dint of attention and perseverance, I lived very comfortably for about thirty months; having suited myself with necessary houses, and other requisite accommodations. In this sweet repose, I spent my time agreeably with my family and servants, prosecuting further improvements; when I was of a new interrupted in the month of May 1776. by a party of thirty armed American stragglers (under command of a nominal Captain or leader) who rushed impetuously into my grounds, where I was at work with my servant men, labouring the fields; and calling us villians, robbers and interlopping Tory's, ordered us to surrender; and having struck me with some severity, instantly made me prisoner, without giving any reason for this assault, dragging us along in this violent manner, we were tossed promiscuously into an open boat, upon the Lake, hard by; and there confined under a Guard; until that party had assaulted and taken Crownpoint (a British Fort) at four miles distant from my settlement.

This event happened soon after the enemy had taken possession of Ficonderoga; and then only it was that I got intimation that the rebellious Americans had revolted from their allegiance to Great Britain; or that they had committed hostilities against the Mother Country.—After being some time confined, I caught an inviting occasion of conversing Colonel Warner, who commanded that detachment, to know the real cause of apprehending me so rudely, and detaining me captive, like a convict; He answered that there was no cause of criminality

criminalty he knew of; nor any other reason for confining me; but the well grounded perswasions of my being a determined friend to the British Legislature; and an avowed enemy to their American independance; adding some perswasive hints for regulating my conduct in future, perfectly agreeably to their maxims and procedure, if I wished for any peace or protection; and with this advice I was dismissed being allowed to return home, where I joyfully arrived that very night

I had not continued in quiet and contentment at home about two weeks, when a riotous mob of neighbouring settlers upon the New England grants, tumultuously assembling, again attacked and made me prisoner; seizing and carrying away all my arms and ammunition, except a small parcel that I found means to conceal without, among the woods. and carrying me along in a very rough manner, under an armed guard delivered me up, a captive to a Captain Barns, at Crown point (who then commanded there,) declaring me to be a most obnoxious dangerous person, and a professed enemy to the American United States, who should not have any liberty among them. Under the load of these accusations, I was here kept close prisoner for several days; when happily my old acquaintance Colonel Hay of the American Army, came to Crown-point; and he being soon informed of the repeated injurious treatment given me, and my present confinement in that Fort; compassionately pity'd my situation, gave orders for my conditional release and liberty to return home and remain in quietness with my family; so long as I behaved inoffensively towards the American constitution and did not appear in any opposition to their cause by any personal services, information or any way whatever.

I had not been many days in the enjoyment of this indulgence when I was again apprehended by another mob, similar to the former, headed by a Serjeant from Captain Barns's party at Crown-point; to which place I was again hurried away, Captive, under a strong armed

guard upon an accusation from that Banditti, that I was employed in buying cattle for provision to the English army, then advancing towards the American forces and back settlements; Peremptorily demanding my immediate surrender and delivery of the arms and ammunition that I lately concealed in the woods or fields; and all this, under certification of my being without mercy, or delay, sent prisoner to Albany jail.

I was under no obligation to answer their accusations, and refused to comply with the demand made for my arms and ammunition: but being at last intreated by some friends, who fear'd my being thrown into prison, where I might possibly be long neglected, with great reluctance I agreed to part with my fire arms, ammunition and favourite broad Sword; and upon this compliance I was permitted to return home, once more; where I had not spent many days, when by an indulging order from the foresaid Colonel Hay, all my weapons were returned me.

I remained at my habitation the rest of this season, under a great deal of anxiety and disquiet; my family being in continual hazard of depredations; My cattle frequently killed, and my effects daily plundered by American parties, incessantly straggling round the country; we having no consolation, but our hopes of the arrival and support of the British forces; which not appearing, nor any notice of their motions, to our relief I, and some loyal neighbours were in agonies and despair, and gave up all for lost. The season of military exploits being nearly exhausted and the Winter fast approaching, I went to Ticonderago for some supplies especially Salt: and applied by supplication to General Gates (then the commandant there) whose Aid-du-camp told me expressly, that if I gave testimony of my being friendly to the cause of the United American States now under agitation, I would be readily furnished with Salt or any other article wanted by me: but otherwise, I could neither expect, or obtain any supplies whatsoever from them. This peremptory re-
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ply delivered under so strict a qualification, by no means suiting my principles, or occasions. I departed silently, meaning to get home timeously that night. During my stay at Ticonderoga, that day I took the opportunity of making some enquiries and observations, that were of some use soon thereafter. There I fell into company with Gillilan and Watson (two men of some property in my neighbourhood, on Lake Champlain) who were known to be disaffected to the royal cause; we dined together, during which time some expressions escaped me, that gave them offence, on the circumstances of times; which fully convinced them of my being dutifully attached to my King and Country. They thereupon resolved and privately determined to have me secured and sent to confinement. This treacherous intention of these crafty men being accidentally made known to my acquaintance, and old friend, Mrs. Hay, (in whose house we were all then) she with her usual goodness of heart, immediately gave me the hint privately, urging my instant departure recollecting our conversation, and knowing the men I had to do with, I gave peremptory compliance, to Mrs Hay's intreaties, and decamped from Ticonderoga; in a small Skiff of my own, hurrying with all possible dispatch homeward, but by contrary wind, and the length of the navigation I did not reach my own house, till the following afternoon.

There, I was hardly refreshed, when a numerous scouting party of American Riflemen came hurry'd into my house. on their way to Crown-point, and intreating some refreshment; which with my usual hospitality I readily afforded them, victuals and drink of my best, though I truly could not enjoy my usual cheerfulness of temper so much were my spirits depressed, by the dismal appearance of present contingencies.

Having no view of any support from our royal army, and as little prospect of my own and family's escape, from the calamities that threatened us, on all hands; but kind providence soon removed all my gloomy apprehensions; for, early next morning an enemy soldier

passed my house, going express to Ticonderoga, for a strong reinforcement of Ten thousand men, from the Americans assembled there, to the immediate support and defence of Crown-point, which would be soon invested by the British troops under General Carleton, who had come by the Lakes from Canada: had already attacked and defeated the American Naval strength, upon Lake Champlain; and approach'd near Crownpoint in force. Phrantick a such an unexpected, agreeable and seasonable piece of acceptable news, I instantly took horse and rode away at full career to embrace my friends: but in place of taking my way privately, thro the woods and rough grounds as I should have prudently done, I drove on impetuously and incautiously, in high spirits along the beaten path to Crown-point, and rushed inconsiderably into the throng of the confused tumult of the people and foldiers, where I was no sooner arrived than apprehended by the giddy multitude all in uproar, with the general cry, of, sieze that damn'd rascal, the outlaw'd and notorious Torry M'calpine; at that instant I had the help of twenty men to pull and draw me from my horse, was marched along to the fort, and there confined close all day, under a strong guard of well armed men, who incessantly insulted me.

During my confinement in such odious quarters, I heard it whispered that general orders had been issued to all the residents in and about Crown-point and its environs, to secure their effects, drive off their cattle, and remove themselves, as all the Houses there, and round the country, were to be instantly burned.

This alarming intelligence induced me in the most supplicating manner to request my enlargement, and enquire the reason, why of all the men residing in that neighbourhood, I alone should be singled out a victim for total destruction; kept in in close confinement there, like a malifactor; and seemingly to be debarred from the benefits of common humanity, was deny'd my liberty on that occasion, to provide against the threatened total destruction of my family and property, by this
intended

intended instant conflagration of all that district.—— Colonel Hartely, who commanded, sternly answered with an emphasis of wrath and indignation, Damn your blood, your friends are too near us; but they shant get you: for you shall have the pleasure, or pain of accompanying me, in my Batteaux, to Ticonderoga. To which I smoothly answered (though in great agitation) That a Colonel in command, and a poor farmer, a prisoner, would not suit so well, or comfortably, in the same boat. Instantanously, consequent to this discouraged conversation, there was an express general order to drive off all the stock and cattle from these and adjacent grounds, to Ticonderoga.

Fortunately for some of my poor neighbours, they drove their cattle prudentially, into swamps and deep woods, by which means, and their being set at some distance, these people saved their beasts: but unluckily my particular stock were always distinguished by carrying, or having four little bells on (as my certain mark or method of finding out my own cattle in the thick woods) by which means, my property was soon discovered and known, particularly singled out, and carried off, without any regret or compensation, but by the sympathizing application and intercession of several American officers, my former acquaintances. I was at length dismissed, and allowed to go home with a Serjeant to see and execute this barbarous design, altho' allowed to save my most valuable effects, and look after the safety of a family, though my cattle were lost; being still under charge of a Serjeant and party, who had peremptory orders to burn my dwelling and other houses, that every night: such was there inveterate resentment at me, on all occasions: but my own dwelling house and a few other straggling houses were accidentally saved, these partly thro' the hurry, and confused flight of the terrified enemy, who only waited to give Crown-point, itself, but a partial consummation.

Watching always for my opportunity of deserting from my guardian Serjeant and his posse, I snatched the
occasion

occasion, when it turned near night, of escaping towards Crown-Point, where arriving safely, I-fortunately found in my search, an old canoe, lying neglected in a swamp, that had been somehow overlooked or not discovered by the terrified Americans, in their very tumultuous flight. This crazie machine, I got launched with the help of some boys who boldly came to assist me, and who accompanied me in paddling the hazardous tool for four miles, in the dark lake, till I got up with General Carleton's fleet; here I immediately went on board the Commodore, that vessel his Excellency was into, where making myself and my errand soon known, I was ready and politely received, humanely treated, and kindly entertained by that most worthy of Men, Lieut. General Carleton, being honoured with his confidential conversation, I made ample discoveries to him of all I knew, respecting the inhabitants and state of this district of the back country, that he was now got into; and the dispositions and attachments of the people immediately above Crown-point and its environs: giving especially a minute information of their state, situation and force at Ticonderoga, upon which I had made particular observations, at my being so recently there, even so late as the proceeding Friday.

His Excellency was pleased to hear my detail with condescension; expressed his approbation of my remarks intelligence, and behaviour, saying audibly, that he believed me so loyally attached, faithfull, and proper for purposes in speculation, that he would not on any account, want me about his person and the public service continually; and that he must have me engaged to attend him and the army, in their operations wherever they moved or whatever they had to undertake: it was then hinted to me that the army stood in need of some provisions; that they believed I was a proper person to get supplies, - if I could venture on such an enterprize, to a man of my principles, this was inducement enough; I therefore without hesitation offered my service on that or any expedition, however hazardous were I assisted by a proper

proper party of such officers and men as I judged expedient: with whom I would not only scout the contiguous country, learn the situation of our enemies: but also might procure a sufficient supply of live cattle for victualling our army, that had perfected their journey and voyage, upon salt provisions alienably.

His excellency cautioning me of the danger and fatigue necessarily attending such manœuvres, and genteelly favouring me with his directions, he consented to my having such a party as was proper and requisite, who upon the following morning were accordingly selected; consisting of two hundred and sixty brave fellows, under the command of the gallant officers, Captain Frazer of the Rangers, and Captain Monie of the Canadians; I going as confident conductor of the expedition.

Thus we proceeded cheerfully through bad roads, swamps, woods and rough grounds, for the space of fifteen miles, and lay the residue of that tempestuous rainy night; upon our arms, within a short distance of our enemy's lines, where we kept snug and undiscovered; I going close to and again among our party, which I repeated several different times, beseeching our men to keep quiet and private; and to be particularly carefull to preserve their arms and ammunition, safe and dry from all rain and injury, as all our success, escape, and even our lives, depended on these judicious precautions: and I must do them the justice to say here, that the whole detachment paid every attention to their duty, and my earnest recommendations. — In this dreary period of our necessary inactive time and considering all circumstances, the commanding officer's and I too, despaired of any great success from our journey; in fact the matter was a little alarming, as we had not been able to preserve one single musket in due order, nor all our ammunition quite dry, through the severity of the rainy, inclement long night; at same time we lay close to the quarters of about twenty thousand enemies.

I indeed feared we were in a forlorn situation and desperate,

desperate circumstances, which no doubt urged me the more to hold our people in chearful humour, and to preserve with spirit and resolution in the execution of our intended purposes.

So soon as day light appeared I conducted our Officers to an adjacent rising ground, to explore the country round us, and reconnitre our enemies.

This prospect in our circumstances, afforded us so intricate difficulties, that Captain Fraser bravely offered to take the rout of the most threatening danger, rather than I should undertake that point of service, he fearing my unexperience and knowing my natural warmth, this generous proposal I thankfully rejected: so we agreed to divide our whole force, into three parties acting distinct, or separately, under the two Captains and me, in allotted numbers; and thus make some bold even desperate push, with mutual exertions, for obtaining some prizes, Concerting, that we should have our rendezvous upon the very ground and at the same spot we halted on the proceeding night. Thus we proceeded, chearfully and resolutely, in three separate bodies, and after each party had closed to our enemies sentries surrounded and captured some parcels of straggling cattle, we severally marched away, undisturbed and unmolested: with our separately collected prizes, to our appointed ground of rendezvous, and there joined again in one collected body, without a single man amissing.

The number of cattle we had collected, by no means gratifying my avidity, I requested the commanding officers to grant me a party of chosen men, who would readventure with me to scour the woods and grounds again, for more cattle. My proposal being accepted, and our wet arms, left with the party who attended the cattle we had in custody, thirty two brave volunteers, instantly turned out to obey my orders; with whom I proceeded on the rout, I thought to be most eligible, where we discovered and carried away thence, above thirty very fine Bulls, with which drift we joyfully pursued and seasonably overtook our friends of the royal

al detachment, as they persevered on their long march homeward.

Thus proceeding in one collected chearfull column, with eminent danger and the utmost expedition reasonable, for Crown-Point, we arrived in safety and high spirits that afternoon: possessed of one hundred and seven head of excellent beef cattle (ten of which number, happened to be part of my own stock, that were formerly plundered by, and now recovered from the rapacious Rebels.) And presently turned into the whole drift, a seasonable supply, before General Carleton, who attentively viewed them: publicly thank'd me for my hazardous projected plan of operations: and applauded all of us, that were concerned in it's safe happy and successful execution: it was a good supply.

General Carleton with his usual and singular humanity and generosity, at this time desired, that I would make up my own particular loss of cattle, out of these now under our capture; but with thankful acknowledgement I replied, that it never should be said of me, I had courted for or taken the valiant soldiers hard earned prize, to indemnify my losses. That I truly considered myself well paid in the mean time, by inselt satisfaction of rendering the King his cause & army my best services, which I was ready to repeat on every occasion in my power, but should my sovereign, or the commander in chief (suppose his excellency) be pleased to grant me, some Rebels farm, at the conclusion of the war, (then thought near to a period), would accept it, with gratitude. I must her observe, much to the praise of General Carleton and our officers of the foresaid expedition; that in the number of cattle we collected in our range, there were some beasts belonging to loyal inhabitants about Crown-point: these, I was desired to call out and return to the former owners, all gratis; which I performed, and they were so sensible of the tenderness shown them, they privately collected a little money among them to gratify the soldiers who had rescued their beasts: but the officers would not allow; nor the party accept

of the intended Benefaction ; such was the regular and generous behaviour of this spirited little army, under command of their gallant leader General Carleton, and his officers of every denomination.

Crown-point having fallen to the British arms, and the season adapted to military attachments, being exhausted too much for our troops procedure to reduce Ticonderago, it was resolved by the commander in chief and his council to return for the winter to Canada, by Lake Champlain. As soon as the movement was determined on, his Excellency took so much care and notice of me and my concerns, that a Serjeant and twelve men were ordered up to my house, for the purpose of removing my family and effects, in safety ; and carrying away whatever was valuable and portable, intentionally, to transport all singly to Canada, under convoy of the royal army. The general being justly apprehensive of my meeting with the most severe retaliations from the exasperated Americans for my spirited exertions to their detriment, during all the time of my unalienable attachment to him, and the British Troops. I repeat it, that he would not, on any consideration suffer me or my family to run the hazard of staying in that quarter, behind the army, lest we should be hardly dealt with ; nor at same time would he think of wanting my personal attendance and services, on his now concerted returning expedition. Agreeable to these friendly precautions, my family and some part of my effects were brought on, and secured as well as circumstances would admit of ; but all my crops of wheat corn and hay, utensils and other articles of estimation to me, were left behind ; to the mercy and resentment of the revengeful Americans, which they soon destroyed, and carried away, totally ; and have been ever since lost to me.

My dwelling house and other buildings were for most part destroyed ; and the remainder of these were for most part destroyed through some error or necessity of our own troops, this did my property pay at that time, as
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on former occasions for my true attachment, and unshaken loyalty to my King and his cause; though I have been since that period, very much injured by parties of the British troops.

Under the escort of General Carleton and his army, myself, family and remaining effects, were brought to St. John's in Canada, where the attentive General ordered such houses as pertained to the rebel Canadians, to be appropriated to those loyalists who had joined him; and in that number I was reckoned with some distinction; whilst I was in search of the proper house, allotted me, some intoxicated soldiers took the audacious liberty of rummaging my loaded batteaux's; where unluckily meeting with my money, they villainously plundered, with some articles of value, and among the rest they carried off several pieces of silver, with some joannes's and half joannes's, that never were recovered again.

From St John's I proceeded to Chamblee, with my Family, and hired a house, having the kings rations allowed us during the hard and unactive season, by the humane General Carleton, who always evidenced the would not neglect the support of those good hearted men, who had risked and lost their all, by their loyal adherence to their king and country; and more especially me, who had so conspicuously, opposed the rebels and on all occasions stood firm in the royal cause. As I had always declined being invariably tyed down to military command, so as to interfere with my liberty, at pleasure; I remained here perfectly unconnected with any public employment; and without having ever formerly got, or now getting, one shilling of pay, although my own little money was quite exhausted. I applied to some new acquired friends for supplies, who very generously favoured me with both cash and credit, to trade a little upon: by which means, and my industrious application to business, I got supprisingly soon into a lucrative branch of traffic, in the right mercantile line for that climate; and had fully established myself upon a good footing, with the flattering hope, next

certainly of soon making myself quite easy in the world, and gradually acquiring a tolerable fortune, with a fair character in life, when in the extreme of my present prosperity and ease; and most unhappily in respect of my private interest, General Burgoyne arrived with the army, and making all necessary enquiries, for the most intelligent persons, and such as might be most useful in his enterprizes; he was soon informed how meritorious and interesting my former services had been, to General Carleton, and his army; and that from my acquaintance with, and experience in that back part of the country and Lakes, he was destined to; my accompanying him, and his troops, might be of essential service to them, and the cause, in many respects. Hereupon being sent for by General Phillips of the Artillery, who politely received me; immediately an interesting conversation took place, in the course of which, many material questions were put to me, confidentially, which I answered with so much precision, that General Phillips thought my attending the army, in the expedition, would be of the utmost benefit to the service, they were going upon, and therefore he seriously asked me, if I would accompany them, or wanted and would accept some military employment.

In answer, I thanked him for his condescensions and the proffer then made me, which on some former occasion, would have been accepted; but being then established in a good trade, that afforded me good returns; I was averse to drop my present business, in favour of any moderate appointment, in the military line: much less would I engage in fixed military, or other subservient life, upon an uncertain footing, or in too inferior a rank.

My inclination running chiefly upon a retired country life as soon as I could attain it; and in due time to return to my favourite estate near Crown-Point; adding, that any indispensable emergency where my poor best offices could be of use, I was so attached to my king, and country, that I would make a temporary

porary sacrifice of my time and my person, to promote our national service: having always a view of reward public or private suitable to my deserts, and endeavours, namely handsome pay to myself; and suitable provision made for supporting my family in my absence; and finally securing me and my successors in perpetual property of some valuable portion of crown lands. I hope the candid world cannot blame me for mentioning such preliminaries, when they impartially consider, that I had bestowed my time, hazarded my life, and lost my all, serving my king and country, without ever receiving any pay or compensation, from the beginning of my calamities, by the present American contest. down to this moment of time, in April 1780.

But to return to the subject matter of my discourse with General Phillips. Being taken into serious consideration for some few days, and being frequently sent for, and pressingly urged by Mr Phillips in the name of General Burgoyne, to connect myself entirely and immediately to their army, so as to assure them of my attendance in this expedition; declaring that all reasonable satisfaction would be made for my time and services. Wearied out with solicitations: unable to resist perpetual intreaties; and depending with the utmost confidence upon the assurances of gratification, given me, by men of high rank and boasted honour, I was finally overpersuaded by these two Generals to consent to relinquish my beneficial mercantile business, and accompany them and their army to the southward.

Thus it remained for some little time, that I had no particular office, employment, or department assigned me, until I was employed to conduct a number of Officers horses through the woods and mountains from Canada to Crown-Point; such a difficult task, through so untrodden a path, would not be easily undertaken by many men in the army, except myself; however, I did engage in that arduous expedient, and having picked out sixteen men of the most active pilots I knew in the country, I set out with my charge (taking
along

along with me a parcel of my own, the best set of horses in the hands of any private man in Canada, which were afterwards plundered from me by the rebels) and persevering through innumerable seeming impossibilities, I accomplished that fatiguing, dangerous, long expedition (of many days journeying the length of that place on Lake Champlain, called Split Rock; where indeed with unexpected safety, much toiled, and want of any regular rest) having only the assistance of one small pitiful canoe, to ferry the drove of horses over many intervening creeks.

At Split Rocks the horses were to be again boated, for ferrying over Lake Champlain, and there I applied to Sir Francis Clark, Aid de Camp, to General Burgoyne, for some boats or Batteaux, to transport the horses under my charge, safely over; but this gentleman (tho' courteous to me on some former occasions) point blank refused me any assistance, in this matter, telling me freely, that my difficulties were not unobserved, nor my success hitherto unadmired, which had brought those in consultation to a determined resolution of forcing (who they saw would undertake any exploit) to try the new expedient of marching those horses, round the Lake through woods, and over the mountains (however hazardous) to ascertain the discovery and proof, if such a course of road was practible, or could be at all effected, purely to avail the troops and service of such a manœuvre, if ever such a line should or might be attempted, on any future emergency.

This alarming unexpected refusal putting me to all shifts and enquiries to get my unavoidable design, effected, information was given me, that two batteaux at twelve miles distance, up Otter creek, which had been lying there quite neglected, since employed some time before, in carrying up provisions to Captain Frazers Indians. I went directly in search of these crazy batteaux, found, and employed them, in ferrying my drift of horses, with toil and difficulty over the Lake; and thence I brought them, in unexpected safety to Chim-

lie-point,

the point, opposite to the Fort of Crown-Point, where our royal army had very properly arrived, and severally encamped; in this situation, I renewed my earnest supplications for the use of some batteaux, to carry the horses over that sound to Crown-Point side, where I had engaged to deliver my charge; but to my great astonishment, I again met with a positive refusal, thro' many batteaux, were at the time lying quite idle.

Such rebuffs, in a matter of such indispensable duty, and service, gave me an unfavourable idea, of the management, upon that expedition; and impressed me with apprehension, that more sacrifices would be made to wantonness than to prudence; and sorry am I, the sequel confirmed it.

Overwhelmed with the dilemma, I was brought into (quite innocently, and seemingly designedly), I came to the very desperate though unavoidable resolution of swimming my whole drift of horses, over the neck of water: in the execution of which perilous method, four of the horses were unlickily lost by drowning, in sight of the whole army, many of whom very much condemned the dangerous expedient, that I was forced to take; and such of the Officers as were my real friends, had occasion soon thereafter with much reason, to regret that accident the more; that I was considered liable for the damage, so far as to be obliged to replace two of the lost horses by giving a choice pair of my own best horses, which pair I could have readily sold for forty eight pound currency; yet never received the smallest part of payment, or other compensation, nor know I where to apply for any redress, but from Government.

My having so judiciously conducted, and executed this hazardous expedition, with these horses, induced the Generals Phillips and Burgoyne soon to send for me, and having obeyed their hurried call, they again earnestly requested that I should then take a special connection with the army, so far as to subject me to military orders, entitle me to certain regular, handsome pay

pay; especially as they would that of all the men under their command; I altogether, should return incontinently to St. Johns, Canada, to take charge of conducting up some of his Majesty's horses, there wanted for immediate urgent service, adding as usual, the most express assurances, and promises, of my being handsomely rewarded at all events, for performing the business now in agitation; which they requested I would go about. I answered them, with all diffidence, that I did not wish to enter into any military duty; preferring rather that I should continue in my present independence, and have perfect disposal of my time, for purposes of bringing up my family from Canada, or my settling there, as I chose; so as I might enjoy a quiet life, in peace, and be my own master.

Then were such intreaties, promises and persuasions poured upon me, that I suffered all my objections to be over-ruled, and my difficulties were in some measure then removed, by my getting an order instantly, from Colonel Carleton to the acting Quarter master-General at St John's, to furnish me a batteaux and hands, for the special purpose of carrying my family and effects to Crown Point; in full confidence of these promises and considerations, and my foolishly trusting to many stipulations that never were in any part performed, I was then and there persuaded to receive orders, and immediately proceeded with all dispatch to St John's, Canada, to take charge of, and bring up the Kings horses now wanted; I set off and upon my arrival there, I received written instructions (yet in my possession) dated St John's 5th July 1777, from Nathaniel Day Esq; commissary of horses, in which orders I am designed "John M'Alpine, assistant commissary of horse"; which in all equity sounds me a just claim to the pay of ten shillings and sixpence sterling per day from at last that period, till I was released on cartel at New-York. By Mr Day's instructions foresaid, I was then appointed to take charge of two hundred of his Majesty's horses, for the purpose of conducting them to the
royal

royal army at Crown-point, or Ticonderago. The horses being accordingly put under my care, I observed at surveying them, that several were unfit for the present intended service, according to my comprehensions and therefore, I peremptorily refused to receive any horses that I deem'd improper. But at same time I draughted and received such cattle as I judged sound and suitable to the labour in view, and these numbered only 195 head, in the whole, I was sensible that Major Hughs, contractor for Horses, had been shagreen'd, by turning so many unsound horses, on his hands: but I made conscience of my duty, and the confidence put in me by my employers: never putting my promised pay, douceurs, in comparison with my own honour: and my hearty regard to our public service. Having mustered my party of men drivers, and these 195 pick'd horses, I set out ordering necessary batteaux to proceed with suitable provender and provisions: and fixing upon certain appointed places of rendezvous, for our meeting in the evenings, to refresh both men and cattle. In this manner did I pursue a most disagreeable journey of many days, continued for above one hundred and fifty miles of unbeaten roads, thro' mountains, woods and swamps, rivers brooks and lakes, till I arrived in safety at Ticonderago, with the insignificant loss of one horse only, which perished in the woods, through hurt fatigue, and sickness, in course of so very troublesome and tedious an expedition. It was universally acknowledged that such a successful march, under so many difficulties had never been accomplished, in the course we travelled; nay the detachment that went in a road nearly similar, some little time before me, and with some such number of horses, lost outright above thirty drove, besides many were hurt.

At Ticonderago I met with the Major Hughs, I had formerly offended, by rejecting so many unsound horses at St. Johns, who now approved of my fidelity and conduct in the matter, and publicly declared, that I had successfully accomplished a difficult piece of service.

before then thought impracticable, which had saved Government five hundred pound sterling, and deserved particular notice and reward; at same time solicited my going into his own department, and offered me ten-shillings and sixpence per day, during all the war, or our reaching Albany, which of them I preferred: and on that head he addressed General Phillips, craving my liberty immediately, to which General Phillips answered, that if I deserved from him, Major Hugh's or any other man whatsoever; I must be equally valuable to them in Government service, which could not dispense with my attendance in certain points, and therefore in place of his parting with me on any account, I must certainly remain in my present state of attendance on the army, subordinate to the private confidential orders of the Generals, alleneraly. Should it not be a determined argument when all the preceeding circumstances recollectively considered, That since General Phillips prevented my embracing Major Hughs particular service and pay, I have consequently an undubitable claim to ten shillings and sixpence per day, since the aera of my being sent to Canada till some time in may 1778, when I was detached from military employment; yes, I ought, and I hope will be allowed it by Government; together with the full amount of my accompt of charge herewith given in, for all my debursements, expences and losses, incurred by and consequent of my public services and unshaken loyalty, all yet unrewarded; and I must with all due submission, observe to my readers, that however patriotism may animate men to glorious atchievements; it cannot be deny'd, emoluments will ever influence the best actions of mankind; why then not allow me such retrospective views, in common with the world at large.

Our royal army then marching away from Ticonderago, for lake George, our people in hospital were in great want of fresh provisions.

In this season of difficulty, I was thought of, and applied to, requesting I would undertake to go in search of some supply to these needy objects.

As usual I consented, and was detached with a party

of fifty two men, up Olive Creek, to the new England country, with written orders from General Philips to purchase live cattle for provisions to our sick men; and duly pay full value therefore; in consequence I bought forty head of beef cattle with which I returned, and deliverd them as directed, to our commissary at Ticonderago: who ungracefully refused to pay the value that I contracted for, until sufficient evidence was given him, of the loyalty of the persons I had bargained with, which I well knew could not be obtained, as to my own knowledge, many of them were heartily disaffected in this dilemma my honour engaged for the people's payment, their delegate at my heels to receive their money, and Mr Phillips special order to be produced for the purchases I had made, I had no remedy, but directly apply to General Hamilton (then commandant there) who immediately accompanied me to the ungenerous commissaries office, ordering him at his peril to pay me down instantly every penny I did engage for, conform to my account of purchases given in. The commissary was thus ordered to pay the value; but in doing it he detained me so long unnecessarily, that I was entangled in a new plague and much loss to myself.

For having that day (4th August 1777) received General Hamilton's orders to carry some number of our prisoners from Ticonderoga, to Crown-point, in order to make hay there, for foraging the horses of our army; I accordingly entered upon that discharge of duty with my usual alacrity; and collected a necessary squad of our prisoners into a batteaux prepared for our expedition, being furnished with provisions suitable for our purpose; and putting some effects and baggage of value of my own, on board, every thing thus adjusted for our voyage, I went about getting the value aforesaid of the cattle paid to the man in waiting for it, in execution of which business I was so long detained by the commissary that our prisoners finding themselves so snugly boated, took the opportunity of my absence, to push off with the batteaux and make for the New-England side of the Lake,

thus effecting their escape, possessed of our batteaux, stores and thirty pounds worth of my property.

Disappointed in this manner of my hay workers &c. I again applied to General Hamilton, who directed me on the same service formerly ordered, with instructions to employ the people at Crown-Point and its environs to execute the labour of hay making, at the current rate for such work, and pay their wages. This trust, I attended and executed; drawing provisions and liquor from the garrison stores for supplying our workers, and finally paying the labourers wages out of my own pocket, amounting to the sum of thirteen pound eleven shillings currency, of which sum I have never been reimbursed in any part, and therefore include it in my charge against Government.

From Crown-Point I returned to Ticonderoga, where I was employed in transporting provisions, by Batteaux, for our army, to lake George; which necessary work being accomplished, I was then ordered by General Powell to proceed directly to our army under General Burgoyne, who had by that time advanced to Fort Miller, upon still water, and attended others. then I set off, and at my arrival there, I fell in with Major Hugh's formerly mentioned, who repeated the offers he had made me before; enjoining, my personal application to the General, for being perfectly detached to the Majors proper department. This was done, and after those in superior command had for some days digested the matter, and thought that perhaps I might be more useful in the Major's employ than with the army at large: General Pailips hinted, that it had been concerted, to adjourn me (for one month only in the way of trial) to major Hughes particular department. and I was at liberty to accept his offers; which I did, receiving his approbation, and my full pay according to his promise. As soon as that months separate employment, was ended, I gave pointed attendance upon the army, and obedience to my superior's orders, in whatever way or branch was recommended to me: Being always detached upon the necessary

fary duty of foraging, and with scouting parties, particularly, for which special service, I was thought to be always the most properly, adapted therefore was as certainly appointed; because my acquaintance in that country, and my allowed activity in expeditions, promised the greatest hopes of success. In this manner I continued to be constantly employed, till the propitious 19th September 1777, that the royal army successfully attacked the Americans at Freeman's farms, where, and in which action, I have the vanity to say with some truth that my conduct and behaviour was taken as much notice of, as any private man in the service; for which I am convinced I can get the testimony of several officers of reputation then on the field, particularly from the gallant Captain Twiss, who conducted as chief engineer, and will acknowledge that his endeavours was much facilitated, by my allertly bringing up two cannon, where he ordered them, and in the critical moment of his affecting a very desirous manouvre, in the execution of which exploit, I was in danger, yet I relieved and brought off a wounded soldier, and gave Captain Twiss my horse in the action.

From that day I continued with the army, rendering every service in my power, and conforming my conduct to the commands laid upon me, night and day, till the beginning of October thereafter. that I heard with jealousy and regreat, General Burgoyne had employed a certain man from Still-water (named Jones, and who was notoriously attached to the rebels formerly) to go as confidential express on some very private message to Ticonderoga for a reward of five hundred guineas, as was said. I must own this intelligence much disgusted me, from a suspicion that my integrity and attachment were some how overlooked or suspected; where the General had so far displayed his diffidence of me, as to employ a rebel upon an important secret errand, that I was deemed unworthy of being entrusted with; the more especially that it was well known, I had all along sacrificed my private interest, and very often endangered my
life

life, to promote our public service's of every kind committed to me. In short my feelings were so smart, and my Delicacy so much hurt, that I determined to withdraw from attendance, and retire to my old rural habitation, poor as it was; which I mentioned to some officers of most intimate acquaintance, with loud complaint of the injurious intreatment given me, by the commander in chief, which I could not digest; and in this flight of resentment, I applied to Sir Francis Clark one of the Aide-camps for my pass homeward; in a few days Sir Francis gave me a pass, but upon the express condition that I would faithfully return to the army, as soon as my family could be removed to Canady; or put under General Powell's protection at Ticonderoga; which obligation I pointedly acquiesced in.

The following evening, an orderly Serjeant was sent me ordering my immediate attendance upon General Burgoyne, which message I obeyed with the more alacrity that I perswaded myself, now in the moment of my departure, was the acceptable time of my receiving, if not full payment for my attendance upon the army. at least some handsome consideration, or allowance for my long, faithful and hazardous services, as I never yet received a shilling of pay or public money; but how great was my disappointment when in place of any reward, or even bare mention of it, I found a very cold indifferent reception from General Burgoyne, who asked me, if I was seriously going to leave him at this critical time of danger; when he had so much confidence in me, dependance upon my loyal exertions, and every due sense of my essential service to the royal cause.

My answer gave him to know that I had come to the resolution of returning now to my family, long distressed in my absence, and in the greatest need of my best offices, nor could I see any inducement for my dangling longer about him; as he had never give me any pay or gratification for my trouble, loss and attendance

That in place of finding him disposed to perform his promises to me I had unexpectedly discovered, that he had
apparently

apparently lost all faith and dependance, on my honour and best endeavours; when he would employ a rebel or suspected person, to go confidentially, upon the late private errand, or particular message to Ticonderoga; a confidence that should of right be committed to my often experienced, well proved integrity. Being so exceedingly affected with that glaring instance of his disrespect for, and diffidence in me, I was finally resolved to bid him then, farewell; for which I hoped he would excuse me, and I was sure the world could not justly blame me. He passionately, then turned upon me, saying vehemently, that I might depend on it, I had for ever forfeited his recommendations, liberality, and friendship: and he had rather that I had joined the rebels, than have deserted him in the present critical juncture. I must own I was put into some agitation, by the tenour of our whole conversation: and the disrespectful usage given me causelessly which occasioned my replying, in displeasure, "That were I inclined to connect myself with the rebel Americans, I had many favourable opportunities and interesting offers before that day; and was quite certain, they would still give me a welcome reception; but my principles were as loyal, and my heart as true to my gracious sovereign and his cause, as any other men in the British service; withall I was independent of General Burgoyne, and the rebels too, and could find myself agreeable employment without serving either of them; nor would I for one day longer; but in the present time I wished it were duly considered that I had jealously injured my health in running every hazard and taking constant fatigues; had very much hurt my family by neglecting them; and quite ruined my subject, by attending him so incessantly upon the public service; and trusting to his promises never performed, without being ever favoured with a penny of pay, or the smallest compensation, for my time, trouble, or expence; and now I hoped for some adequate consideration." Finding that my hints seemed not to be understood; nor any regard to my complaints, I instantly withdrew both

both parties much displeased, particularly me. That evening, I designed to take a public farewell of my good friend Major Hughs, Captain Twiss, and other officers, my distinguished wellwithers, who being made acquainted of my conversation with, and the neglect shown me by General Burgoyne; they perfectly disapproved of the usage given me, and were pleased to regret my parting with the army, insisting strongly that I should not detach myself entirely from the service, but only retire so far as Ticonderoga, and employ myself there in collecting every species of forage, and forwarding every thing possible for the supplies of the troops. Repeating all my grievances, I declared to my esteemed friends, that I would decamp for good, let General Burgoyne find another when and where he best could; and accordingly I set off from camp very late at night, and passed the rivers twice by swimming my horse in the dark, for dispatch and secrecy, to avoid being intercepted by the rebels.

By five o'clock next morning I got to Fort-George, having road above thirty four miles, in less than five hours; I here waited on the commanding officer, and informed him of what had passed with Mr Burgoyne, and my intention now; upon which he ordered a batteaux for conveying me to Diamond island, in the possession of our troops, under command of Captain Arberry of the forty seventh regiment; who also being made acquainted with my grievances and resolutions; he ordered me another batteaux to Ticonderoga. There I waited on General Powel, giving him a full detail of all my manœuvres; which he tenderly expressed a feeling concern at, and used all arguments to dissuade me from withdrawing entirely; but in place of leaving the service and then going home, I should remain with himself, occasionally employed in some duty, until I went upon the very first special errand, back to general Burgoyne; which might make up all matters, and he would take particular interest and pleasure, in getting all justice done me.

Tho'

Tho' I attended with the due regard to this good man's proposals, it then occurred to me and I mentioned it to him, that should I be employed upon any such confidential message, and have the misfortune of being made prisoner, on such perilous occasions, the most violent severities from the rebels, might by my fate : and perhaps General Burgoyne's resentment might lead him to the cruel conjecture, of my having designedly thrown myself in the enemy's power. In short, I disavowed any confidence in Mr Burgoyne's sentiments, friendships, or operations : and thanking Mr. Powell for his overtures, I set off homeward that day.

I had been only a few days consoling my family at home, when one express, and then a second came with the utmost hurry and confusion to my house, requesting my immediate attendance on General Powell at Ticonderago, for every thing was lost; sure enough I repaired to him, with all speed; and there unhappily learned, that General Burgoyne and fine little army had been fatally made prisoners, at Saratoga.

I cannot pretend to say, professionally, there was any misconduct in that disaster : but to speak from opinions I had not too sanguine hopes of their procedure, surrounded by numerous enemy's in one extensive diseased country, very little known to our adventures ; who had not the support they expected, nor the encouragement they were entitled to, and what in fact they merited : at same time, I was always afraid that over much trust was put in men, who misled, or betrayed our people, while our commanders distrusted and despised their loyal adherents and substantial friends.

Being thus got again to Ticonderoga, in General Powell's confidence, he told me, that on these trying occasions, my best offices, attention, and essential services, were more requisite than ever : and that without my incessant exertions he despaired, that he or his party could expect the necessary operations, of transporting boats, provisions, stores and others from lake George.

seeing our army's horses and carriages had been all recently dispersed and destroyed by our enemys; I replied with deference 'That I had all along heartily complained with and happily executed all the orders I was honoured with by my superior, and upon this occasion I would cheerfully contribute my outmost power of exertion for his Majesty's service, and the salvation of his property; but at this crisis, I was sensible of interveening difficulties, that seem'd unsurmountable in spite of my outmost application, yet I would adventure my life upon the success, tho' I would wish to be excused from undertaking matters, that had the appearance of impossibilities.' General Powell, always pleasant, that tho' now in great perplexity and seeming despair, persevering in intreatys, I laid aside all view to my own interest and concerns at home, sacrificing these and my personal safety to his Majesty's important urgent services; and resolutely set about performing them; which by unwearied attention and perseverance, I got effected (in full) much sooner then my most flattering hopes, suggested: tho' attended with the unremitting personal fatigues: in the expedition of which operations, I contributed seventy days work of my own yoke, man servant, four oxen, chains, and other requisites, for which Mr. Powell was to have paid a Dollar per day. That I now charge to Government, because I received no compensation then, through our hurry and confusion: and my own captivity, immediately consequent, prevented my ever meeting Mr. Powell to have his promise implemented. It would be ungenerous not to mention here, that in performing the complicated operations of this troublesome service, I was much assisted by the unwearied endeavours of worthy Captain Twiss; who being relieved from Albany, seemed rejoiced to find me here, employed upon so trying an occasion, and contributed more than fell to one officers share, in the work of the time. By the chearful active perseverance of all our united efforts, we perfected the conveyance of all our stores &c. from lake George to Ticonderoga, where our troops were incessantly busied, under one attentive commander, in preparations to evacuate that fortress, and return to Canada.

In these circumstances of our flight from the approaching American army, I must do General Powell the justice to acknowledge, that he paid so much regard to my particular interest, as to order my family and effects should be taken due care of, and transported to Canada, under escort of our detachment: that whatever should be left of my property, by my attendance upon the public service, would unquestionably be made good to me, when charged for: and that I would accept the trust of seeing every thing compleated at Ticonderoga, and be the last man to depart from that post, when evacuated: which obligations I came under, and actually perfected, tho' not yet paid for it.

In faithful compliance with my promises to General Powell, and in strict obedience to his confidential orders to me, at our parting: I patiently waited to have every necessary operation compleated. in the manner he directed, at Ticonderoga; which being effectually performed, I then set off with our last party, of about sixty men, to carry the Kings remaining horses, through the woods and mountains to Canada; having my servants and the poor remains of my cattle stock, in the cavalcade; and my family, with the residue of my portable effects and furniture, sent in company with our provisions and forage, in our batteaux.

In this manner I proceeded for some days, unmolested, towards Canada; and having surmounted the greatest part of the difficulties, occasioned by woods and mountains, &c. in one unfrequented course of road perhaps never attempted but by native Indians, I got all safe to that tract of land, called Gillilands Patent, where I considered myself out of all danger of pursuit or surprise; but then and there, were I and my party, overtaken quite unarm'd, and captured by a detachment of fifty chosen, well armed men from the American army, who had found means of crossing over the lake (to expedite their pursuit) and approached us the more suddenly: having instantaneously mann'd their boats, they pursued and captured our batteaux making us all prisoners, with
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all our provisions and provender, and my remaining stores, cattle, effects of furniture, cloathing, &c, of every denomination. In this forlorn condition, we were all carried back to a certain place called the *Red House*, within nine miles of my former habitation: and there they divided among them, every particular of cattle, horses, effects &c. (my part of that capture, being the residue of all my worldly subject, and of considerable value) with-leaving me ought, but the cloaths that were on me, and my wife's back; and my child of only four years of age. The unhuman plunderers having compleated this cruel scene, they allowed the Canadians of my party to return home, and to carry along with them, my wife and child giving the whole company, only the scanty allowance of two days provision, to support them all, in a long expedition of six day's navigation, in that very late inclement season of the year; my natural feelings were easier conceived than expressed on this melancholy occasion, stripped of every article of consideration; but the cloathing then upon me, and deprived of my disconsolate wife, and only surviving child, perhaps never to meet again, as indeed we did not, for a long time thereafter.

In this wretched plight, was I and my miserable little loyal party hurried and dragged along, to be thrown into some dunge n (as was threatened) attended by a strong armed guard, who unpitied, impetuously drove us like beasts, through frost and snow, poorly fed, and as ill lodged destitute of money friends, or acquaintance; nor would these wretches allow me to ride one of my own horses, of which they captured then, eight of the best in that country, with four fine oxen, all my cows, young cattle, other stock, and valuable effects to some considerable amount, as will appear in my annexed account thereof.

We were informed, we had three hundred miles to travel through, in this disconsolate way, to the Goal of Hartford: the first hundred miles of which tormenting journey we finished, by arriving at Bennington, where I

was

was some days confined in the guard house, kept, at very scrimp allowance, without bed or bedding, or any ease of rest, but what I could get in my big coat, and torn boots: stretched in a plank of wood, that just exalted me high enough to escape the reach of unnumberable tribes of vermine that paraded, the floor of that offensive sty; my poor party being thrown into the common goal like malefactors. With some sort of insulting form, I was here brought before a kind of counsel, who after examining and there threatening me, made offers of my release, with restitution of all my property in land, cattle and other effects; with some torie's farm, in perpetuity, If I would now at last heartily join in their favourite cause, and renounce my allegiance; reminding me, that they were no strangers to the mischiefs M'Alpine had done them, and the active part I had all along taken against their independance. by my services to the Torry army's, in respect of provisions, informations &c. &c. all which conjoined misdeameanors had rendred me obnoxious, and liable to punishment, even death: or through their innate clemency my life wou'd be spared and I permitted to see New-York, upon cartel, I was not to hope for a General Carleton, there to patronise me, as he did heretofore: which last prediction, I found fatally true in the event. Having resolutely withstood all their repeated threats and solicitations to seduce me from my allegiance, I was turned out with great indignation, and desired to prepare for a long march to Hartford prison, hell or somewhere. Accordingly I was fitting myself for bidding an eternal farewell to Bennington, and encouraging my disconsolate party (most of them Scots Highlanders) who nobly resisted every temptation thrown in their way, to desert me and the Royal cause, notwithstanding they were half naked, and barefooted, travelling on snow and ice; at the very time of leaving Bennington, I was much nonplussed by the misbehaviour of one American half Dutchman of my party, who (averse to trade the snow, if he could save his feet) took occasion of then kidnapping

ing an American officers horse, just equipt for journey and rode away full speed, over the country; of him I heard no more. Upon my coming to the town end, I opened the door of a house, enquiring if I could get a horse to hire for some miles, to overtake the party: no sooner I appeared and spoke, than I was known to be an enemy, and was roughly answered by a coarse yankie virago "turn out of my house, ye torry captain son of a B—h; your man stole our captain's horse just now, get out ye Torry". Thus rebuffed, I was glad to waddle along, after my party and their guard, whom, I soon overtook attended with a multitudinary mobb, insulting them; who insulted me, with asking sneeringly, "torry captain will you sell your drove of cannibals," meaning my poor fellow prisoners, half clad half dead, and in a truly tatterdemalion condition.

Prosecuting this woful journey, we at the end of many days reached Hartford, where my poor loyal party (called torrys at all hands) were thrown into common goal; but I was admitted to some liberty, on my parole, purely through the influence of the officer who commanded our marching guard. Next day I happily met with my old acquaintance, Captain Monie of the 9th Regiment, who was formerly quarter master in Burgoyne's army, but now a prisoner here. He, being no stranger to both my services and sufferings in the royal cause, generously spared me a little money, which with some benefactions from loyalists at Hartford, enabled me to live in some decency.

Captain Monie persevering in repeated acts of friendship, which I shall always remember gratefully, strenuously applied to the rebel commissary for prisoners, informing him, I was of some esteem with certain people: and if he had any friend at New-York, whom he wished to be liberated, preferably, upon an equal exchange, now was his time of effecting it; by granting me one months parole to New-York for bringing such an exchange to conclusion. I think it was about the middle

of December, that this pass was given me; when being furnished with some kind of recommendation from Cap. Monie, to Lord Radon (who befriended me) to Colonel Sherrif &c. I set out for New-York (full of hopes) and in my way picked up a neglected grenadier, a cliver young fellow, whose exigences I believe had put him under difficulties: him I refreshed out of my pittance and brought along to the city of New-York. Here I met with, and applied to, several acquainted officers, who well knew some merit in my long, and much neglected services to the public; reasonably guessed at my poverty; and were informed now, of the manner in which my liberty was so far obtained. To their praise be it here acknowledged, that many of these gentlemen's pockets were open to my necessary calls, as often as delicacy allowed; and they so assiduously exerted their applications to General Clinton (then commandant at New-York) after removing some objections, I obtained an order of exchange just two days before the time of my parole would be expired. My arrival and exchange at New-York, being thus effected, I detached every consideration of further connections with, the British service, or ever entering into permanent military orders; if any field of action, in private life, should occur to me, with any tempting inducement's. And I conclude my campaigning &c. with observing that I have narrated these adventures, with unviolated honour and truth: and that every particular of my public orders, and exertions relative thereto, could have been authentically documented and produced in support of my complicated details, had not my most material papers (in common with my other effects) been so repeatedly seized and abstracted by the Americans, when they unluckily had me in their clutches. Indeed some of my authorities have been recovered, more are yet expected, and all will be chearfully submitted to examination.

My liberty from all confinement, of every kind, being thus happily accomplished, at New-York? and the
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season of the year not affording the occasion of any ship to Canada, (where I v ry much desired to go, in quest of my wife, and only child, whom I had not seen of a very long time) I remained some months at New-York, quite disengaged from all business, public or private. In the course of which period, I made some approaches toward my being more known; but found no inviting hopes from the General, that would induce me to use some freedoms, I occasionally stood in need of, therefore I avoided the imputation of being thought too troublesome.

My little cash being exhausted, I was put under the disagreeable necessity of addressing some particular friends for immediate supplies; but humane as they were, I was ashamed of repeating these applications thoroughly weary of an unactive life. I finally resolved to push into some Business or employment, and with that intention I communicated my purpose (with friendly freedom) to my very good acquaintance, Captain Anstruther of the 26th regiment, who commanded at Crown point, when I first went to it, anno 1773. With his accustomed generosity, he instantly assured me, of all the interest in his power, (fairly indeed exhibited by his former unwearied applications for my exchange). By this worthy man, I was introduced to the acquaintance of Colonel Clark, barrack master General, who promised me his friendship, when an opportunity offered. But no vacant birth being then in view, Colonel Clark recommended me to Francis Green Esq; from Boston, then agent upon the estate of Henry Loyd Esq; on long Island, who was in agitation of a contract with Colonel Clark, for furnishing fuel from that estate, to supply the troops in barrack at New-York.

I was admitted to all the intimacy could be reasonably expected so soon, by this Mr. Green, who on all occasions was pleased to put confidence in me; and sensibly felt my calamities: by the injurys he had experienced, in course of the present contention for American independence and with a heart full of gratitude

I pay Mr. Green, the thankful tribute of acknowledging that he has all along continued in the same warm disposition towards me : invariable in his friendships, and unremitting in his virtuous kind offices.

In consequence of Mr Green's uncommon offices, and singular attachment to me, I was greatly encouraged to adventure a further connection with him ; accordingly I entered into three separate contracts of agreement, dated the the 24th April 1st June, and 26th November, all in the year 1778. for a certain farm, with all its produce, upon long Island : conform to the conditions specially narrated, in these several articles of agreement, yet extant in my hands, to which reference is here made for particulars, being the more especially attached to that indentical portion of land, that the most expers protections had been granted by Generals Howe, and Clinton, to that estate, and its relatives ; which were considered the most ample ever issued for any American loyalist's property.

To that estate upon long island, I removed and lived in the family way a most contented, quiet and easy life for several months, turning every produce to outmost advantage, in so close a vicinity to the good market of New York ; and having no interruption to my local happiness, but the alarms I might be occasionally under of some rebel depradations, from the opposite shore of Connecticut. My esteemed friend Francis Green esq. having this said constituents authority and interests always in his view, persisted in the scheme of supplying Colonel Clark, upon contract, with any quantity of fewel, or firewood, might be thought requisite for the troops in Barracks at New York : and having confidentially intimated his purpose to me, I approved the plan, and directly set on and continued a number of hands in constant employ, cutting and preparing that fewel to serve the Battack consumptions ; which I was bound to deliver free at New-York, at the fixed price of four pounds currency per cord, in terms of an accomplished contract. At which rate I could, and would

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to furnish any quantity of fuel, that the troops could possibly need, or should consume, while in Barracks; which I am positively certain would by a saving to Government of several thousand pounds annually; [which are wantonly, or through ignorance of circumstances, unnecessarily thrown away to jobbers, or Government contractors in the army.

This declared fact, in the misconduct of that particular (I mean the Barrack) department, I can with ease make perfectly evident, if I am called upon, as I earnestly desire I may be, to support this assertion, now candidly disclosed for our national advantage: and I anxiously desire that my explanation may be taken openly before the house of commons, to make them and the nation sensible of the material difference betwixt the extravagant price charged in sterling money by army contractors, for Barrack fuel, and the small allowance these last men made us of only four pound currency at per cord at New-York; yet I at same time admit, that this value or price is so equal to both parties, that if I am honoured with the employment of furnishing our troops with fuel, in New-York Barracks, (for any such familiar situation, in America) upon Government account, and receiving quick and regular payments; I will instantly undertake the supply, to an extent, at four pound the cord of such wood, and find gentlemen of unexceptionable character and good fortune, who will directly engage, by contract, for my due performance, not only in the necessary supplies of next winter 1780, but as many subsequent seasons as this unhappy war continues; or our troops remain in America, under any other appointment of the British legislature so much hinted, for public savings in this time of our need, I return to my story respecting the firewood.

In consequence of Mr Green's scheme of supply to Colonel Clark one thousand measured cords of fuel were sent by me to New-York; but when it was received there, by the Barrack master's department, in my absence, they fell on sinister means (though plausible) of

of reducing that cargo, to only eight hundred cords of their cart measurement; which defalcation, being so large and glaring, that some imposition or deceit must be intended and effected; Mr. Green was very justly alarmed wrote me of the unaccountable inlake in that cargo; and requested my explanation of the difference in contents; or any plausible reason for it.

Here I thought a daring push had been made at my honour by some person in the dark as might be said; for being recommended, as an honest man, by my good friend Colonel Clark, and by him to my patron Mr. Green, I considered my reputation much engaged or attacked by this perplexity, and was determined at all events to clear my character of any least participation in irregularity's. With that resolution, I went to New-York to wait on Mr. Green, and arrived there at the very time, another of my wood vessels was discharging her cargo. The master of that wood vessel was immediately complained loudly of the impositions used by the barrack department, at receiving the fewel occasioned by the iniquitous largeness of their carts; which in their contents, and the unfair method of cramming in the wood, at stowing very far exceeded the allowed measurement or contents of city regulation.

I soon comprehended what the man meant; but to obtain a thorough knowledge of these circumstances of deception, I took the occasion offered, while the carters stopped work, to take dinner, to measure out a full statute cord of wood, upon the wharf: in the presence of several masters of vessels (then along side) whom I called to be witnesses to my regular procedure: and then ordered, that measured cord of wood, to be thrown down the wharf, carelessly as if tossed fairly out of my vessel: upon this wharf I remained, by the wood, to see how these Barrack carters wou'd then load their carriages, and my experiment would answer the intention; I knowing well, that the statute cord should exactly correspond with four statute cart loads; whereas in the unjust manner, these Barrack jobbing carters,

were directed by Colonel Clark's people to fill up, cram, and load their carts (and actually did load) they forced stowed, and pack'd, the regular statute cord of wood, into three carts only, and still called for more fewel, to heap out and make up such loads as they were desired to take on.

Here the cloven foot at once appeared, and thus they injuriously overloaded a full fourth part, above statute measure, which was a certain conviction to me, and all the spectators of the manner and cause that the two hundred cords of fewel had been lost, in the former cargo, villainously swallowed up, and not accounted for as it justly ought.

I instantly stopped the carts, called for Skippers, and masters of coal yards, and sent for some of Colonel Clark's assistants and servants, to inform them of what had passed, both as the proven measurement and fraudulent discovery certifying to them publickly, that I would never deliver to them more fewel in that barrack department; nor have any thing to do with people of such deceitful methods, and injurious principles. And by this discovery was the seed of their resentment sown against me and continued.

Mr Green was soon informed of this open detection, and as easily convinced of its certainty; yet from a hearty desire to promote the public utility, he still offered to contract with Colonel Clark, for any quantity of fewel he required, delivered at the various landing or shipping places were on the state of Loyd's neck, in Long Island; if Mr Clark would appoint any inspector to superintend the measurements; but he positively would no further engage for any more deliveries of cargoes, at New York wharfs.

This equitable proposal was rejected by Colonel Clark and his deputies, who in that open and fair way could not amass gain enough, much less could they buy commissions by fraudulent practises; therefore they rejected Mr Green's upright proffer, and renounced the contract; Colonel Clark having thus broke up dealing

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by advice of his deputies I dare say, Mr Green betook himself to the expedient of selling the wood of Mr. Loyd's estate, to private purchasers; but still with his restriction, that a preference of sale, should be always, given Colonel Clark, upon equal terms, for supplying the troops; and to this special obligation all the purchasers frankly occurred, of which number I was a principal one.

In virtue of these transactions, I and some other purchasers or contractors; set about selling and preparing the fewel wood; but we had no sooner got some quantity in readiness for market, than some of Colonel Clark's mirmidons, laid hold on it, and forcibly discharging our people, at their peril to remove any part of it, from the premises; and thus at once put a stop to all the contracts Mr. Green had made, all on the false pretence, that the whole fewel was wanted for barrack use; which was well known not to be the real cause.

To support the fact of this incontestable assertion, I affirm, and can prove, that for the space of eight months from the time they forcibly interrupted my particular work, and down to the middle of December last (1779) Mr. Clark's men had not cut one single cord of wood, that I contracted for, though they uniformly interrupted me, and took the work, out of my hands: For which identical bargain, I would have paid the proprietor one thousand pound: which sum he has been deprived of since, as I am of considerable profits that would result therefrom, at the stated price. If it should be objected here, that there was not sufficiency of wood upon my neighbouring rebel estates, to supply our troops in the Barracks: I deny the allegation, and can freely make oath, that I publickly offered, and would chearfully have paid two thousand pound for one year's liberty of the woods and lands of these two identical Rebel estates, that Colonel Clark got, some how, into his clutches; and which I am confident has put several thousands of pounds slump, gratis, into the pockets of
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Clark and his deputy's; as many thousands have got futully, which they have bilked the public of; and happy will I be, if called upon, regularly, to make my assertion, good: because my open averment of these circumstances, is with the, avowed intention of making the horrid fraudulent practices of the Barrack department (in the matter of fewel for the troops) known to the whole world; and particularly doing justice to our injured nation.

This unprecedented interruption from Colonel Clark and his demigoggs put a perfect stop to all our wood, tranfactions upon a loyal estate; under repeated protections; but very particularly hurt my interest, who had set a number of good hands to work, cut a large quantity of wood, and bought six teams for my own employ: which in view of doing business in due season I had kepted through the long winter, at some considerable expence.

These all, being then thrown idle, I offered their service's to Colonel Clark's men, at the common rate hire of the country; but in addition to my distreffes, they rejected all concern with me, my people or cattle, though at same time they enlarged their gains, by impressing poor people's teams, and taking their own services too, at very insignificant rates, in the name of Government service. Being soon after, in want of drivers, through their under payments, the consequence was, they affected little or no team work, the chief part of summer, and of course the garrison had only a few days fewel in store at the fall of the year; and without, the city was so ill provided, that for their general supply I ordered up some vessels loads, of wood and fewel to New-York.

Two of these wood loaded vessels, were overtaken and captured in the sound or passage, by some Connecticut rebel plunderers, after they had nearly approached to New-York, where I was; upon my hearing of these disaltrous captures I directly went in quest of, and bought two small guns, of two pounds shot; the one of which

which I had placed in the stern of my boat, upon a slide carriage, on the platform, the other I got fixed on the clutch of a tree, and two waggon wheels to it: and having then given a call, to a few brave, confident, loyal refugee's, and informed them of my intention, I asked, if they would boldly venture on such an expedition. They answering affirmatively, about fifty, resolute fine fellows instantly turned out volunteers; and away we set that night, convoyed over the sound by a wood sloop, of four gun's, and attended by several whale boats to land our men, when necessary. Proceeding about six miles in this manner, we approached the opposite shore, and by day break landed at Greenwich in Connecticut, with only thirty three of our party, leaving behind the rest of our men to guard our boats, and secure our retreat, should we be repulsed.

Having reconnoitred and paraded the shore and country, for the distance of full three miles round our landing place, we met with very insignificant opposition, by this time I became quite weary, walking and running about from one eminence to another, in taking proper observations, (a duty that became very necessary and was incumbent on me particularly, as I acted as sole commandant,) which induced me to lay hands on the very first horse fell in my way; and putting the strap of my cartouch box, in the brutes mouth, in directing bridle I rode about, bare backed, giving my most judicious orders, until we approached a Rebel posse or guard, who seemed disposed to interrupt us; those, we instantly attacked with spirit, and soon broke and dispersed the main body; making eight of their number, prisoners; one of whom I peremptorily ordered away to fetch me a saddle and bridle, which he soon performed. We then marched boldly, to surround and capture some horses and cattle, that appeared in view, at a little distance, about some habitations. At this little village, some greedy men of my party (in imitation of the enemy marroders) discovered an unworthy disposition to mean plundering and depredations and

and shamefully went the length of taking cloathing &c. from some defenceless females (in contradiction to my exprefs orders) which I peremptorily caused them reſtore, in full; commanding only to capture all the fighting men, arms, ammunition, cattle and horſes that came in our power. Soon thereafter, we fell in with, and attacked a ſecond Rebel party, whom we ſoon beat off the field, and captured thirteen men (one of whom was a villianous deluding prieſt) with ſeveral ſtand of good arms, ſome ammunition, and above one thouſand pounds worth of fine cattle and horſes, which they guarded. This good prize we carried, towards the ſhore, where our body of reſerve, and boats lay in waiting; but in our long march downwards, we were attacked violently, by a ſtronger body of Rebels, whom we deſperately encountred, and after a ſmart engagement we drove them clear off the field, with a ſenſible loſs that they never attempted to give us any further interruption, in our carrying every article, to our place of deſtination. So that we proceeded without meeting any ſtrange face, except ſome women that followed us, with a lamentable cry of compaſſion, to each of whom I gave a milk cow to nourish their children. Being arrived at the Beach, my firſt eſſay was to ſurvey my party and know how the men ſtood out, ſo much firing, I was much ſurprized to find that all my my brave fellows had eſcaped quite unhurt, and could not enough admire the favourable hand of providence, towards myſelf, that acting as commanding officer, and conſtantly running and riding to and again, in all theſe encounters and ſkirmiſhes, ſurrounded with bullets innumerable, flying round me yet was never touched.

Having now obtained the ſhore, with our prize of men priſoners arms, ammunition, cattle, and horſes; we ſet inſtantly about ſhipping the whole, which was a tedious, difficult, dangerous operation, as we were circumſtanced; for having only whale boats, to tranſport the cattle, on board our large veſſel, we were under the unavoidable neceſſity, of ſwimming and
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towing them away in drifts or parcels, for a considerable distance, till we reached the large vessel, adapted for taking them on board.

It may be presumed that this method of conveyance, must take up a great deal of time (as in fact it did) and gave the enemy opportunity of assembling from all quarters, in numbers, to attempt a rescue of some part at least of their cattle. They judiciously, improved the occasion of our very confused employment; and how soon they thought themselves strong enough for the assault, they impetuously made one attack, about three hundred men strong well armed, in full hopes of defeating and destroying us. In the first rencounter, they found us too firm to be daunted or broke; so that in place of giving way to their very superior number (being above three hundred men to fifty only) we drove the cowardly Dogs, fairly beyond gun shot of our stationed ground, to which they never approached so nigh, as to interrupt our manœuvres, in taking of our prizes, so that we carried them wholly, safe on board without any other injury, than one of my men being shot thro' the arm, a wound of no great detriment to him and our cause.

Our expedition being now so far accomplished, we set off, huzzaing, and got all safe to our own opposite shore, of long island; and in triumph landed all our prizes, amidst the acclamations of our friends there, who as well as the multitude upon the Connecticut side had been spectators, to our operations; but never thought, that so pitiful an handful of men (though resolute) could oppose, much less vanquish, such numbers of dastardly Rebels; and carry away our captures too, without losing a man of our party, and but only one man wounded.

Our prisoners, headed by their priest, we sent off to New York jail, to ly there till exchanged for an equal number of poor worthy royalists, might be suffering innocently, perhaps rotting in American dungeons. I then ranged for our division our Bestial prizes of every
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denomination and disposed of them, equally among the brave fellows of my deserving detachment, who had valliantly risked their lives, in transacting one of the boldest enterprizes that had been attempted, since the first commencement of our war with the Americans : an exploit which the multitude loudly applauded, and said no other than that desperate highland man, mad John M'Alpine, would have attempted or executed it.

Many such manœuvres would be planned, and could be executed by me and many other bold, resolute, well meaning loyalists in America : were we only encouraged and allowed (though not assisted) to make due reprisals, on our unrelenting enemies ; and unquestionably, we of that quarter of the world, who have suffered most and lost our all, in the present contention for independence ; are and must be the fittest people, for such hazardous exploits as this : and under proper conductors would seldom fail of success ; but by some fatallity and distinction, the most deserving men are much discouraged, and disrespectfully treated ; while the unactive poltrons are in estimation, through interest or connection, to the perpetual detriment of our national cause, and injury to the best of kings.—But to return to my fewel narration.

During the transactions of this private adventure, a false report had been industriously propagated by the Barrack department, and their minions, of the prevailing scarcity of fewel for the troops, in garrison, which occasioned a general intimation from the commander in chief, ordering all persons immediately cut down and bring in their firewood to New-York, else it would be taken from them gratis. This forced public order, gave the long wished for, much agitated opportunity to one Mr Gilbert Wauch (formerly of the city of Edinburgh,) now the favourite deputy of Colonel Clark barrack master ; of taking up all the fewel, he could get his rapacious clutches on, no doubt at the easiest rates, (if any price at all) which indulgent orders, they captured, consequent to this. Wauch improved so effectually to his
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own private emolument, that he was soon enabled to assume the rank of a pretended gentleman officer, and paid two thousand pounds for a company, in the 57th regiment, if memory serves me, nor will this remark seem unaccountable, when it is known, as now, that the fuel is taken for a price next to nothing, though Government is charged at an extravagant rate: and had the people not been oppressed, or had they been punctually paid, by the Barrack department, the stated prices allowed by the commander in chief: they would readily and cheerfully furnish all the fuel was wanted for supplying both the army and city, at the moderate rate of four pound currency per cord, for doing which, I and others would and will engage, at same time this honest method of procedure, would have entirely prevented the General's forced severe order; which undoubtedly was occasioned, by the oppressive manœuvres and continual bad payment of the Barrack department in further execution of their insocial schemes: this same adventerous Gilbert Wauch sent me a letter in June 1779, informing me, that he had Colonel Clark's Directions to intimate to me formally, that I was strictly prohibited from further pasturing any horses, cows or other cattle on the estate of Mr Loyd on Long Island, then under lease to me, nor any authority increase my stock above the then number, as my whole land and pasture were wanted for the convenience of the Barrack department. Perhaps on any occasion such an inconsistent demand would seem laughable, but at present was ridiculously presumptive, as I resided by lease upon part of Mr Loyd's estate, that stood under strict protection and that I was notoriously known, to be a proven loyal subject, who suffered uncommon hardships, and had lost my all, in the present calamities.

Besides, I was sheltered under the General's late proclamation, of safety and encouragement to all loyal subjects, for raising vegetables and other produce for the use of the troops; which certified to all discouragers of industry, and promoters of any turbulence that the

contraveeners of orders would be condignly punished. To avail myself of this protection and encouragement from the General, I directly waited upon my superior, Mr Green, informing the cause of my then visit, and by his direction I next attended upon General Jone's then commandant at New-York, both preferring my complaint and producing Wauch's letter me that had occasioned it, together with a copy of my answer to Wauch relative thereto. One of the General's Aid-de-Camps, told me in presence of some gentlemen then attending, that Wauch certainly did not know what he was doing, for he was writing improperly, and acting without authority; for no peaceable loyal subject or person, were to be discouraged or disturbed in prosecuting industrious endeavours: nor would any man be put wantonly under inconveniences, much less be excluded from local property, except where such steps were absolutely necessary for the public service; and in such events, full value would be paid, in compensation. I gave him to know that I was in the invariable practice of offering every thing my land afforded, and could be spared, even at an under value, to promote the utility: and intimated so much in writing, to Colonel Clark: but my concessions to that avaritious department seemed to have no discreet effect: nor would any condition content them but taking my whole gratis, and at once disable me from supporting myself and family: which has been since evident. At parting from the General's lodging, I met with Gilbert Wauch, and told him I had presented his curious letter to me. With a kind of plausible grimace, he answered, that my return had reached him, and he must own, I was rigorously dealt by; but he acted by Colonel Clark's orders.

Some hours thereafter, I was sent for in a hurry to Colonel Clark's, where I had no sooner come than I expatiated upon the many former injuries done me by him and his assistants in his name, which was now meant to be enlarged with more severity, by Wauch's, late notice to me in writing: adding, that I knew no

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cause given, for his avowed resentment against me, who had always studied his interest, so far as consistent with my honour; of which he had recent instances that he could not have so soon forgot. He stood convinced of all I advanced; and positively disavowed any intention of encroachment upon my property, or injuring my interest any how; in proof of all which he much pressed me to enter without delay into his employment, Mr. Wauch, adding, "That this will insure constant protection to you and your concerns" In answer I observed, that my loyal long services and sufferings, had dearly bought my protection, in any part of the British dominions, and I assured myself of its full enjoyment, and as to the proposals of attaching myself to his particular employ, I would not hesitate to accept the invitation, upon reasonable conditions, namely that I must obtain the approbation of my ever good friend, Mr. Green; that the reward of my services should be adequate to the measure of my employment: and that the extent of my concern in their department, should be such as not to involve me in acts of severity, fraud, oppressions or other irregularity that might hurt my reputation, or be disagreeable to said Mr. Green, on whom I particularly depended. Seeming to approve my remarks, and repeating assurances of friendship, they offered me a dollar per day.

Bad as times were, I told them such an offer was no temptation to me, with which they seemed offended as much as I was, we parted equally displeased; and from that moment they industriously and avowedly plotted my ruin, as follows viz.

Colonel Clark commenced these new oppressions, by attempting to settle their men as if duly billeted, upon my house; and this by force without authority, not thro' the cause of necessity; but purely in malicious resentment, but I awarded that designed blow, as two rebel houses fit for accommodating Clerk's workmen, were then standing unoccupied in my neighbourhood, to which they might resort; which circumstance justified my making resistance, and I availed myself of it,

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They then applied for a warrant from General Jones, to billet their men, regularly on me, in view of taking forcible possession in my house, buildings, forrage and other utensils, without consulting me; on which the General sent orders to Colonel Ludlow our commandant, to advert that the public service was not interrupted, thro' my perverseness, as Gilbert Wauch reported. Mr Ludlow made me a polite visit. I being then indisposed, showed me the General's order, and looking round him, said it must have been obtained, improperly, yet in compliance he behoved to examine thoroughly; which being done he declared, that he could discover no waste in my possession; but found so much of it in the other buildings, those waste, as would lodge more men than Clark and Wauch had at work: the state of facts he genteely reported to General Jones, and prevented Wauch's further encroachment, at that time. This second disappointment, by no means allaying Wauch's malice but rather inflaming his rancorous heart; and he well knowing I was valutudinary, else he durst not appear so very bold, swaggering at my door; he came in his impudent vulgar manner to my house, and without any authority, presumptuously took violently hold of my forrage, and other utensils, my barn, and part of my dwelling house; threatening my servants and forbidding them at their peril, to work any more to, or for me; but vilely enticing them to go into his employment; which some did out of fear, and were never paid for their service; saying he would send me to the provost, in New York, as soon as I got well: to which I replied he had not power so to do, that I was too good a subject for the provost. In this unprecedented inhumane manner did Colonel Clark by his barbarous deputy insult my indisposition, violently seize, and forcibly keep possession for several months, of the lands and others that I had under lease, and paying rent for, without ever offering or giving me the least compensation: nor would they accept my mild offers of communicating to them all the conveniencies of my whole subject

upon these premises, at any rate reasonable; 'twixt honest men, or by the apprizement of judicious people mutually chosen; to which fair proffers, no man of good principles would have objected.

Under all the agitations, that my present indisposition and such tyrannical encroachments must have given my feelings, I remained quiet and submissive to the injurious treatment, they afflicted me with; on the one hand, being averse in giving the General any avoidable trouble, and on the other hand was disposed to use all mildness in preserving my temporary property, in both land and produce; until implacable Wauch, extended his arbitrary severities, the length of interrupting my servants, in manufacturing my hay, looking after my crop, and carting off my apples; or in short doing any other requisite works of the season upon my farm; nay not quite content with such a claim of injuries to my perishing interest, which for want of health I could not give any personal attendance they outrageously proceeded at last to remove my fences, expose my fruit land, throw open my inclosed grounds, turn their cattle and horses in upon my reserved pasture: and almost totally trampled, eat, and ruined my whole crops of wheat, corn, hay, grass and vegetables, of considerable value, so effectually wreaking his vengeance, that the subjects of my rent and support were not only lost, but next to being totally exhausted. So perfectly wasting Mr Loyd's loyal estate that his agent Mr Green, regularly entered a formal protest against Colonel Clark, and all his adherents, (particularly Bathaw Wauch) for legal indemnification of the proprietors interest; but that necessary step, not comprehending my claim for loss or damages, I fall to seek my redress, for the depredations of these cormorants in some of the British courts of justice, or from the British parliament, where I hope to be heard.

While immersed in these calamities, I was plagued with the additional distress, of an unseasonable visit, at this time, from a rascally party of plundering rebels, from Connecticut side of the sound, who coming over
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the channel, in the night time; surrounded my house, broke up, sized and destroyed every thing came in their way, and then departed, with whatever was valuable, or portable to carry off, captivating fourteen good working men, then in my employ, whom they took away prisoners; and in that number was a very valuable Negro, a thorough bred handy craftsman, worth to any man one hundred pound sterling, and for whom I would that day not have taken one hundred guineas of gold.

Happily I myself escaped, by being deeply hid under hay in a certain concealed part of an outer house, in the most private manner, by which precaution I avoided their vigilance and resentment: which expedient I was often necessitated to take for securing my person from surprize seeing I was so well known to, hated, and dreaded by these Connecticut Rebels, that many stratagems had been converted for my captivity; so that I seldom durst be two nights, at an end, in the same bed or house.

Left in this dismal situation, between the unmanly ungenerous unprovoked vile machinations, of my rapacious, malicious, and invidious country-men on the one hand! and the depredations of my mortal enemies, on the other. I was very much nonplussed how to conduct myself: but recollecting that my most promising, immediate relief, might be obtained from that misled veteran Colonel Clark, and his avaritious tribe of deputies and assistants, I applied by petition to General James Pattison in october last 1779 (he being then commandant of New-York) praying his excellency would attend to my grievances and grant reparation of the damages done me by Colonel Clark Barrack master General of his department, as the same is particularly stated in my representation relative there to, No. 6 yet in my custody for production. Assurances were then given me by Captain Addi, aid de camp that due attention would be paid my claiment representation, so far as having utmost justice done; and indeed I had reason to believe that my case had been taken under consider-

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ation, because, my best of friends, Mr Green told me Colonel Clark had acknowledged to him there was some money due me, in the payment of which, he Clark, was engaged, and would do me justice.

Excited by this encouraging information, I soon attended at the Barrack office, where Gilbert Wauch gave me to know, that he was going to wait on Colonel Clark upon the settlement of my affairs, which he thought would be finished by one o'clock that afternoon, when I might appear.

With patience I waited till the appointed hour of day had been very long elapsed, and Wauch's fallacious promises were despaired of, in this dangling manner did I dance three weeks attendance, about Colonel Clark, and his poultry deputy, daily calling at the Barracks office, to no purpose; till weary of paying any more court there, I addressed Captain Addie, who with regret told me, that General Pattison had taken my petition and its grievances under consideration; which he would willingly adjust by compromise: but the authoritatively, could not regularly attempt to determine, by reason that Colonel Clark complained upon, was at the head of his own proper department, and of course the commandant could not cognisce. But Captain Aiddie genteely added, that by General Pattison's orders, he himself carried my petition to Major Andrew, one of General Clinton's, aid de-camp, in view of having it properly terminated: desiring me, in his name, to wait upon Major Andrew, for knowing what had been done. I soon repaired to Major Andrew, with this message notifying my present difficulties, and the necessity of my going into England soon, unless some Redress was given me at New-York.

The Major attentively hearing me, at some length, desired I might wait on him next morning at nine o'clock. Which hour being come, I duly attended, and to make the sure of matters, I gave in, a note in write repeating my grievances: the many distresses consequent thereof: for reparative of which calamities, I had been long giving

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effectual

effectual attendances, and now intreated that matters might be finally settled, before the commander in chief or his delegate. The Major then, to my great disappointment, putting me off with coolly repeating my former answer that Colonel Clark, being an acknowledged gentleman of rank in the army; and a direct principal, at the head of his own proper department, he only could and certainly would do me material justice, without any compulsion; so recommended me to Colonel Clark's honour and integrity, for reparation in a genteel manner, since no compulsitors could be used, in the case, besides, that the commander in chief was so immersed in public business which engrossed his utmost attention, that he had no time to bestow upon my private affairs; nor could he detach himself, for holding any courts of enquiry then at New-York.

This repulsed, I considered it fruitless to make any further application at New-York; seeing the men in highest ranks of military command in America, had in effect refused to interpose in redressing the grievances, of, and clamant injuries done an innocent, meritorious oppressed loyalist. Therefore despairing of any reparation in that quarter of the world, I took my leave avowing openly that I would ship myself for England, to lay my complaints and their oppressions in America, before our Gracious Sovereign, his ministry, my honest countrymen, and the nation at large, to evidence how injuriously and barbarously the honest loyalists, our King's best friends, were treated and often neglected by his Majesty's servants abroad.

Accordingly I prepared for the voyage, and taking my passage in one of the fleet then getting ready to sail for England; and embarked the 23d December. 1779 on board the Houghton store ship, in the ordinance service, paying sixteen guineas for my passage, and fifteen more for my stores. With thirty days tempestuous weather, we run it to Milford Haven in south Wales, whence I pushed my way to London, in the flattering hopes of meeting my honourable and esteemed acquaintances.

none of them had I the pleasure of seeing, viz, the Earl of Belcarras, Lords Peterham and Radon, Generals Carleton, Phillips, Powell Hamilton, Colonels Austruther and Archibald Campbell, Captains Monie Twiss, &c. whose good offices I could safely depend on to direct me to the proper channel of application, for having my grievances publicly known, and ample retribution made for the losses I have sustained by my loyalty, and for the services I have rendered my king and country, in the wilds of America.

If my country men are not deaf to the voice of humanity and gratitude, I certainly have some claim to their attention in both these views of me, and I am unquestionably the more encouraged to hope for their friendly considerations: that since my arrival in Britain, I have learned, that many people who never endured losses, hardships, and services, in any degree comparable to my very severe tryals, have been esteemed worthy of public notice and rewards; and that many loyal American refugees, are at this juncture under pensions, or receiving gratuities, for only practically losing their fortunes, whereas unhappy I, have totally lost my all. Withal, there may be few, if any, of these good men, who can say candidly, that they ever toiled, travelled and fought in the Royal cause; as I have repeatedly, chearfully, and am ready yet to do, if called furth to action, if any quarter in the world, for the cause of my King and native country.

Having in course of the preceeding details, so frequently and repeatedly mentioned, my connections with and employment in the military line; contingent losses and debursments that unavoidably attended these services, I take the liberty to condescend on the various particulars relative thereto; and consequent thereof, which I annex in an account of precepts, both for public information, and with the declared intention of bringing them furth, in charge against Government; in full confidence of suitable redress, by ordering me immediate payment of my debursment for the public service,

service; of my daily pay, totally in arrear: together with due compensation for all the damages I incurred, and the losses I sustained, through my various connections with the royal army, in America: and my loyal adherence to the interest of great Britain; particularised as follows viz.

ACCOMPT John M^r Alpine, against Government, for his daily pay; attendance on, and service with the Royal Army in America; Horses furnished; and work performed at Ticonderago.

To my time and services, (1776) attending General Carleton and his army, in their various movements and operations, at and about the Lakes, Crownpoint, and Canada in the year 1776, slumped at one hundred pound.

To my pay (1777) at the rate of ten shilligg and sixpence per day, being the same that Major Hughs while I attended him; and which Generas Burgoyne and Philips bound themselves to pay me, charged from the first June 1797 that I engaged with them, until the first day of May 1778. That after my liberation from captivity, I was disjoined from military service inclusive two hundred and seventy four days at ten shillings and sixpence, is one hundred and thirty seven Guineas sterling, or in American currency, two hundred and fifty five pound fourteen shillings and eight pence.

To the value of two excellent horses furnished to Lord Petersham, upon the service, in General Burgoyne's army in 1777, worth in currency forty eight pound.

To wages paid out by me, to hay workers at Crownpoint in 1777, making hay there, for the army, by General Hamilton's order, thirteen pound eleven shillings.

To seventy days work of my man servant, yoke, four Oxen, chains &c. employed in various removes and carriages, at Ticonderoga, and its environs, by General Powel's orders in 1777, charged at a Dollar per day, in currency twenty eight pound.

Total pay debursements, horses and services, four hundred and forty five pound, five shillings and eight pence.

accompt.

Accompt of charge by John M^e Alpine, on Government, for the damages he incurred, and losses that he sustained, by destroying his houses, crop &c. while he was attending the royal army in America.

To the value of houses, cattle, horses, corn, hay and other produce and farming utensils, furniture and other effects destroyed, by the troops and enemies, while I attended the service with General Carleton, at Canada the lakes of Crown point in 1776. currency four hundred pound.

To value of cloathing, furniture and other effects, gold joannas and other pieces of money, plundered out of my Batteaux at St Johns; when I was carried to Canada to assist to remove, and further the service with General Carleton, currency eight pound.

The value of my baggage and other effects carried off (1777) in the Batteaux by our rebel prisoners when they escaped from Ticonderago to New England side, in place of going to Crown-Point to make hay, as ordered by General Hamilton, currency thirty pound. Five hundred and ten pound.

General Powel having employed me at Ticonderaga, in serving the stores &c, and engaged me to be the last man to leave that garrison; he becoming bound to pay my damages: I fall to charge the loss sustained when I was then captured, and made Prisoner viz.

To the value of my best eight horses, worth twenty guinea's in Canada, inclusive one hundred and sixty eight pound. Currency two hundred and ninety eight pound thirteen shillings and fourpence.

To ten horses of inferior quality valued at eight guinea's each, inclusive eighty guineas. Currency one hundred and forty nine pound six shillings and eightpence.

To ten head fine oxen, and breeding cattle, valued at one hundred pound.

To my whole cloathing, furniture, and other effects one thousand pound.

To value of my crops of corn, hay, &c. farming and other

other utensils, and other effects on my land, and lost one hundred and sixty pound.

Premium of a half joanna each lost by capture of thirty officers horses, going on hire to Canada, and captured with me, when intercepted by the rebels on the lake, going from Ticonderago, inclusive upon the whole loss of fifty five pound sterling, is in currencie ninety seven pound ten shillings. One thousand eight hundred and five pound ten shillings.

Total of these losses two thousand three hundred fifteen pound ten shillings.

Accompt John M^cAlpine, against Government for his losses at Loyd's Neck upon Long-Island when plundered by the Connecticut rebels, 1779 as mentioned in his memoirs.

To the value of a handy crafts-man, fine Negroe well worth one hundred guineas, rated in currency at one hundred and eighty six pound thirteen shillings and fourpence.

To two vessels, loaded with wood, then carried off one hundred and twenty pound.

To a small boat well worth thirty five pound.

To furniture broke and carried away forty pound.

Total losses at Long-Island, three hundred and eighty one pound thirteen shillings and fourpence.

Abstract accompt of the charge made by John M^cAlpine against the British Government for pay, debursements and losses in America.

To daily pay, debursements, and services while connected with the British army's, under Generals Carleton Burgoyne, Hamilton and Powel in 1779 and 1777 per accompt four hundred and forty five pound five shillings and eight pence.

To amount of his losses, by rebel depra-dation &c, while he attended the armys, under Generals Carleton Powel &c, in 1776 and 1777. which these officers engaged to be reimbursed, per accompt, two thousand three hundred and fifteen pound ten shillings.

Total charge, by his connections with the armys, two thousand

thousand seven hundred and sixty pound fifteen shillings and eight pence.

To amount of the loss he sustained by the Rebel depredations at Loyds Neck, Long Island, as per account of particulars, 1779 three hundred and eighteen pound, forty two pound nine shillings.

Total charge for occurrences in course of the American War, that he was connected with the British service from 1775 to 1780, three thousand one hundred and forty two pound nine shillings.

To my charge for the damages done by Colonel Clark, and his Barrack department, upon my Farm, under lease, in Long Island, by taking my contract wood for fuel to the troops, in Barracks; using and destroying my crops of all kinds; possessing all my houses, forrage, and utensils, for his works, abusing my cattle &c. my lost business and time while idle, and seeking reparation at New-York, in vain, and my expences of coming now to Britain in expectation of being reimbursed by Government, since all these contingent losses were incurred as Mr Clark said, by accommodating the British Troops, and national service, one thousand eight hundred and sixty six pound thirteen shillings and four pence.

Total charge by John M'Alpine, against Government, five thousand and nine pound two shillings and four pence.

A
DESCRIPTION
OF
BOTANY BAY,

On the East side of NEW HOLLAND, in the Indian Seas, where Government are now forming a Settlement for the reception of Male and Female Convicts, sentenced by the Laws of this Country to transportation.

Set forth under the following Heads, viz Situation. Soil and Vegetation. Animals, Birds, &c. Inhabitants. Habitations, Food, and Manners. Canoes and Weapons. Remarks, &c. &c.

From Captain COOK's Voyage.

SITUATION.

THIS country is of greater extent than any other that does not bear the name of Continent; it extends from the 11th to the 38th degree of south latitude; and the length of the east and north-east coast, reduced to a straight line, is 27 degrees, which amounts to near 2000 miles; so that its square surface is much larger than all Europe.

SOIL AND VEGETATION.

To the southward of latitude 33, the land is in general low and level; farther northward it is hilly, but in no part mountaneous; for the hills and mountains make but a small part of the surface, compared with the plains and valies. The rising grounds are chequered with woods
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and lawns, and in many places the plains are covered with herbage, but loose sand and a barren soil, most generally mark the aspect of the country. The vegetation to the northward is less vigorous than to the southward; the trees being neither so tall, nor the herbage so rich. The grass, though high, is thin, and the trees large, two kinds only of which could be considered as good timber, are seldom less than forty feet asunder. There are likewise trees covered with a soft bark, the same that is used for calking of ships in the East Indies. There are three sorts of Palm, and a Variety of plants to enrich the collection of a botanist, but very few of the esculent kind.

ANIMALS, BIRDS, &c.

Of the quadrupeds, the most remarkable is, that called by the natives, Kangazoo, which is as large as a sheep. The head, neck, and shoulders are small, compared with the rest of the body, but the ears are large and stand erect. The fore legs of a young one are only 18 inches. — Its progress is by successive leaps of a great length in an erect posture. The skin of this animal is covered with a short furr of a dark mouse colour, except the head and ears, which resemble those of a hare. The tail is as long as the whole body, and tapers towards the end. This animal, when dressed, is most excellent food.

Various species of dogs were seen—also an animal of the Opossum kind, and, and another resembling a polecat, called by the natives Quoll; the body of which is white, and the back spotted with white. These were the only quadrupeds to be seen on the coast of this extensive country.

The land birds are bats, which hold a middle rank between beasts and birds, and are as large as a partridge. Parrots, paroquets, cockatoos, and other birds of exquisite beauty pigeons which fly in numerous flocks; doves, herons, bustards quails, crows, hawks, and eagles; pelicans of an enormous size, and many sea fowls that are unknown in Europe.

Among the reptiles, are various kinds of snakes, centipeds, scorpions and lizards. The insects are principally caterpillars, butterflies, musquitos, and ants; some of these are quite black and construct their habitations on the inside of branches of a tree, by taking out the pith, almost to the extremity of the slightest twig, and yet those branches flourish as if they had remained in their natural estate. If a person break a branch, he is immediately covered with millions of animals, which inject their stings with incessant violence.

The sea furnishes the inhabitants with a much more plentiful supply of food than the land. The fish are of various sorts; but except the mullet and some of the shell-fish, none of them are known in Europe: most of them are palatable, and some delicious. On the shoals and reefs are incredible numbers of the finest green turtle in the universe; oysters of various kinds, cockles of a prodigious size, lobsters and crabs. In the rivers and salt creeks there are alligators.

I N H A B I T A N T S.

This country is very thinly inhabited. The men are of a middle size, and in general clean limbed, nimble and active. — Their skin is of a chocolate colour; but their features are far from being disagreeable, for their noses are not flat, nor their lips thick; their teeth are white and even, and their hair naturally long and black, though they all crop it short; their beards are bushy and thick. Both sexes go naked, and seem to have no sense of decency in thus discovering their bodies. Their principal ornament is a bone thrust through the cartilage that divides the nostrils: as this bone is as thick as a man's finger, and between 5 and 6 inches long, it reaches quite cross the face, and stops up both nostrils, they so snuffle when they speak, as to be scarcely intelligible to each other. They have also neck laces made of shell, bracelets of small cord wound three or four times round the arm, and a string of plated human hair round their waists; some of them have also gorgets of shells hanging round the neck. They also paint their bodies white and red

red; the red is laid on in broad patches upon the shoulders and breast, and the white in narrow stripes drawn over the limbs, and broad ones over the body, nor without some degree of taste. The white was also laid on in small patches upon the face, and drawn in a circle round each eye. They have holes in their ears, but they were not observed to wear any ornament in them.

HABITATIONS, FOOD AND MANNERS,

Nothing like a town or village was to be seen in the whole country. The huts at Botany Bay, where they are the best, are but just high enough for a man to sit upright in, and will not admit of his being extended at length. They are made of pliable twigs in the form of an oven, by sticking the two ends in the ground, and then covering them with palm leaves, and broad pieces of bark. The door is only a large hole at one end; yet in this miserable hut three or four persons lie, coiled up with their heels to their head. Far to the northward, where the climate is warmer, none of their huts are more than four feet deep, and one side entirely open.

The only furniture belonging to their houses appears to be an oblong vessel made of bark, by tying up the ends with a withe, which being cut off serves for a handle. These are used to fetch water. They have also a small bag, about the size of a cabbage net, made somewhat in the manner of knitting, which the man carries upon his back, by a string that passes over head. This contains a lump or two of paint, some fish hooks of shells, and lines, a few points of darts, and their usual ornaments, which includes the whole worldly treasure of the richest among them.

These people have not the least idea of traffic, nor could the English prevail on them to exchange one thing for another.—They set such a value on their own ornaments, that they would not part with the least article for any thing that could be offered them, however shewey

and brilliant; and the same indifference which prevented them bartering, kept them honest.

CANOES AND WEAPONS.

The canoes on the southern part of the coast, are formed of bark tied together at both ends, and kept open in the middle by small bows of wood; these will hold three people; farther to the northward, the canoes are made of the trunk of a tree hollowed, perhaps by fire they are 14 feet long, and are fitted with an out rigger, to prevent their oversetting, these will contain four people, and are worked by long paddles, that require both hands to be managed.—How they fell the trees of which those canoes are formed, is not known, the only tools found among them were an ax, wretchedly made of stone some small pieces of the same substance in the form of a wedge, a wooden mallet, and some shells and fragments of coral.

Their weapons are spears or lances of different kinds, these they throw with such good aim, as to be more sure of their mark than an European with a single bullet; they also wear a shield or target of an oblong form, of about three feet long, and about half that width, made of the bark of a tree.

CONCLUSION.

Capt. Cook's commentator, (Dr Hawkesworth) remarks in favour of the increase of population which our globe is capable of, that New Holland, a country equal to all Europe in magnitude, admirably well calculated by its situation, and no less so by its soil, to afford subsistence, together with every social and rational enjoyment, to many thousands of rational beings, which at present is the solitary haunt of a few miserable savages, destitute of cloathing, ill provided with food, and whose lives are rendered supportable, merely by the principle of happiness, with which the Creator has endowed all his creatures, namely, a consciousness of existence.

The same writer observes, from the present state of

the world, it seems highly probable, that the 19th century may be favourable to population beyond any former period of time. It is, however, to be added, from the present undertaking of Government to colonize a part of this extensive track and civilize its inhabitants, that the 18th century gives dawn to the projected population; and as under the reign of George III. America was lost to this empire, it is some compensation to seek the acquisition of new territories.

NOVA-SCOTIA.

This province, called Acadia by the French, is bounded on the N. by the river St Lawrence; on the E. by the gulph of St Lawrence; on the S. by the Atlantic ocean; and on the W. by Canada and New England; being 350 miles long and 250 broad. It had its name from Sr Wm Alexander, secretary to K. James I. who had the first grant of land in it, and called it Nova Scotia. Its chief commodities are furs and codfish; and its chief towns are Halifax, Annapolis, Causo, and St John's — Halifax the capital, stands upon Chebucto-bay, and is supposed to contain 12,000 inhabitants.

To Judge of the climate of Nova Scotia by the latitude would lead any person into the most egregious mistakes. It lies between 43 and 49 deg. of N. latitude, and between 60 and 67 W. longitude; and in the same latitude in Europe we find some of the most pleasant countries in that quarter of the world; but in Nova Scotia is very different. The winter lasts seven months, and is of a severity dreadful to new comers. The deepest rivers are frozen over in one night, so as to bear loaded wagons; the snow lies deeper than ten feet in many places, and even upon level tracts it is sometimes six feet deep. The inhabitants are shut up in their houses, and except, in towns, lead a miserable life. They are almost in a torpid state as the vegetables of the country: much of the summer is spent in laying up fuel for the winter; brandy and rum are there the greatest luxuries the people indulge themselves in.

Such a degree of cold is there felt as benumbs the very faculties of the mind, and is nearly destructive of all industry.—When this severe winter goes away, a heat greater than is ever felt in Britain, comes all at once, for they have no spring; the snow is instantly melted, and runs in torrents to the sea; the ground is soon thawed, the trees are presently in the leaf, and the little husbandry here practised is then begun. But what is as bad as these extremes of heat and cold, and renders this country particularly unwholesome, are the continual fogs; they last far into the summer.—Such is the climate of Nova Scotia, which is bad to excess, and would make one conclude, that is unacquainted with these latitudes, that it would banish husbandry altogether; but this is not the case.

The SOIL varies greatly; in many part it is thin and gravely on a bed of rock; for many years this was what they endeavoured to cultivate; but the ill success which attended their labours taught the inhabitants a change that has proved very advantageous for them. They fixed in the salt marshes on the Bay of Funda, which tho' it required a very great expence to drain them, yet the fertility of the Soil repaid the farmer much better than other tracts easier gained.

The Soil of these marshes is a white or blue clay, mellow and marly when cultivated; if the water is well carried off, it will produce great crops, being suitable to the heat of the summer. In September their corn is ripe.—The woodlands, when cleaned, they plant with pease, potatoes, cabbages, &c. the last of which is very useful to them, as they keep them below the snow during the winter.

The game in this country is amazingly plenty, and from the general freedom of sporting and fishing, they derive no small advantages to their families. It is asserted, on good authority, that a boy of 12 years of age, with his gun, would maintain ten or twelve of family the year round, pork and bread excepted. Two boys have been
known

known to catch upwards of 200 hares in one winter with twine snares. Six boys, in three boats, shot in four days, 150 wild geese, and 400 black ducks. The eils are so plenty in their little rivers, that they keep immense quantities of them for their winter provision.

C A N A D A.

THIS province is bounded on the N. by New Britain; on the E. by Nova-Scotia, New England, and New-York; on the S. by the Apalachian and Cherokee mountains; and by the great lakes and unknown lands on the W. The chief productions are furs and castor; and the principle cities are Quebec, Montreal, and Trios Rivers — Quebec, the capital of all Canada, is situate at, the confluence of the Rivers St Lawrence and St Charlet about 320 miles from the sea. The number of inhabitants are computed at 12 or 13,000.

The climate of Canada is much colder in the winter than Nova-Scotia, which perhaps is owing to its being at a greater distance from the sea: yet it is greatly preferable: the air is clear and pure, and in general the inhabitants enjoy as good health as any set of people in America. The productions of this country plainly show it is superior to Nova Scotia, for here the inhabitants have both pumpions and melons, apples and pears, in abundance; whereas in Nova-Scotia, though it cannot be said to be entirely without them, yet there are but very few in comparison. To the South of Canada, about Montreal, the climate is far more mild than at Quebec.

The north-west wind blows through winter with a severity scarcely credible: it plainly comes through all walls that are not very thick, and with such violence, that if a candle is held against a wall of a brick and an half thick it will be instantly blown out: all the insides of such walls opposite to the north-west are covered with snow. The walls of the houses must be of a very great thickness, and at the same time well sheltered by woods and hills, for people within not to feel the wind blow on them. This dreadful north-west wind is felt all over the continent, even to Charleston in South Carolina. This wind in Canada is more severe than in Nova-Scotia; the snow is

as deep, but the air is clear, being free from fogs, which so much distress the latter. Although the winter is thus severe, yet it is not spent free of employment: wrapt up in their furs; winter expeditions are undertaken, sawing and cutting lumber go on, though not with that alacrity as in the more southern colonies.

The SOIL of Canada is of two sorts, the stoney and pure loam, are that free of stones; both are cultivated, but the latter is by far the best; it is of a black or reddish hue, and is without doubt as fine land as any in the world; and were it in a climate more favourable, would yield as rich productions. There are vast tracts of it in Canada, which would in many parts of Britain let at 25s an acre, but here ly uncultivated, all the settlements and farms in this country being only on the banks of rivers, principally on that of St Lawrence. The cultivated country is only a narrow slip of land on each side the river, scarce any when more than half a mile broad, unless it spreads on account of other streams that fall into the principal one. In some places however, the cultivated country is some miles broad, as about the Three towns.

The unsettled parts of this country, which includes all but the banks of the river St Lawrence, is a forest, mostly filled with birch, various sorts of pines, oaks, &c. and many of these trees are of an amazing size. The soil of these forests is the same with the cultivated fields, and and the same variety. All that immense country, from the river St Lawrence to the south, which is part of New England and Nova-Scotia, has very few tracts in it which are not capable of cultivation. It forms a square of 300 miles every way, which is much larger than Great Britain. Cultivation would improve the soil, drive away the fogs, and make the country much more inhabitable. But such improvements must be some centuries off; in the mean time it will remain an hospitable desert like Nova Scotia.

Before the war the Exports of this country annually amounted to about 105,500 l.



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